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KULIKOV ON INSPECTION TOUR OF 'VASSAL COUNTRIES'

AU191659 Tirana ATA in English 0920 GMT 19 Feb 83

[Text] Tirana, February 19 /ATA/ -- The news agencies report that the commander-in-chief of the Warsaw Treaty Armed Forces, the Russian marshal, Kulikov, is continuing for several days an inspection tour of the East European vassal countries. Beginning with the first days of February, he has inspected in turn the Soviet divisions deployed in East Germany, Poland and recently in Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria. These days he also went to Hungary. In all countries he was received by the chieftains of revisionist parties, with whom, as reported, he discussed on a number of problems that have to do with the combat readiness of the aggressive Warsaw Treaty bloc.

The revisionist propaganda has tried to justify the constant presence of the Moscow top militarymen in the vassal countries with the "friendship and collaboration of the armies of socialist community." But facts show of the opposite. After every inspection, the noose has been further tightened in the vassal countries. Just as the U.S. imperialists, the Soviet social imperialists, too, have intensified their attempts to increase the striking force of this war instrument. In this direction, they are practically acting to accelerate the further political, military and economic integration of the East European vassal countries with the Russian metropolis.

ALBANIA, NOT SFRY, WORKING ON RAILROAD LINK

AU191957 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 1900 GMT 19 Feb 83

[Text] As reported, according to an agreement concluded between the Albanian and Yugoslav Governments for the construction of the Shkoder-Titograd railroad, work was scheduled to start on both sides in July 1982 and the completion of the railroad on both sides up to the border was stipulated for the month of December 1983. An ATA correspondent was informed at the central headquarters for the railroad that the work on the Shkoder-Han i Hoti railroad began in July 1982 and that a considerable volume of work has been carried out. Work is now proceeding at a pace which guarantees the completion of the railroad on Albanian territory right up to the border in December 1983.

Meanwhile, TANJUG reported on 11 February that work has not yet begun on the Yugoslav stretch of the railroad between Titograd and the Han i Hoti border point.

SENATE, CIA, SHULTZ COMMENT ON ANTONOV VIEWED

AU221226 Sofia BTA in English 0910 GMT 22 Feb 83

["To Leave the Truth Stay Concealed" -- BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, Feb 22 (BTA) -- Today all the newspapers carry a commentary by the political observer of the BULGARIAN TELEGRAPH AGENCY, Mr Krasimir Drumev, entitled "To Leave the Truth Stay Concealed...", in which the author exposes Washington's participation in the anti-Bulgarian and antisocialist campaign fanned up in connection with the assassination attempt against Pope John Paul II.

"For Washington and for some of its allies the danger of the true organizers of the attempt on the life of the pope and of the campaign against Bulgaria, the Soviet Union and the entire socialist community, of becoming exposed is looming ever more menacingly" says Mr Krasimir Drumev.

He points out further on that apparently the risk of unmasking the mechanism of the provocation against Bulgaria has become quite big, since the intelligence commission with the United States' Senate has gathered at a special session. The members of this commission, politicians of longstanding "reputation" as anticommunists have expressed in strong terms their indignation that the Central Intelligence Agency failed to make sufficient efforts at investigating the "Bulgarian connection" in the assassination attempt against the pope.

"The American press has failed to publish reports on the concrete recommendations the members of this commission have made to the leadership of the C.I.A., though it is not very difficult to imagine what they could have been, in general outlines writes the author. [quotation mark as received] It became known though that the director of the Central Intelligence Agency, Mr William Casey has met the adviser of the President on questions of national security, Mr William Clark, to persuade him that the intelligence department has by no means neglected their job.

The statements of the U.S. State Secretary George Shultz, that the U.S. Government cannot have 'fruitful relations' with Bulgaria, until the latter supports terrorism, should render fresh impetus to the anti-Bulgarian and anti-Soviet campaign, the author points out. Mr Krasimir Drumev writes further: "Shultz has not made the slightest attempt to support his accusations with proofs. But he couldn't have done otherwise as he is, undoubtedly, well aware that it isn't Bulgaria who stands behind the papal assassination attempt."

The question is, Mr Krasimir Drumev goes on further, whether the head of the American diplomacy realizes the responsibility of his statement (accepted in the West as the first official stand of the United States of America on the plot against the pope), which is nothing else but a fresh issue of slanders against Bulgaria and a fresh attempt to impede the disclosure of the real initiators of the attentate.

"In this case again Washington administration remains faithful to itself -- to aggravate in every way the relations between the East and the West, to poison the international atmosphere in the name of its own policy towards confrontation and military supremacy", states the author.

It is noted further in the commentary that fact after fact, refuting the "Bulgarian complicity" slander now sees the light of day, facts which, along with this, make the sober-thinking people in the West turn their eyes towards the special services and the subversion NATO centres, long ago notorious for their filthy operation.

BTA DIRECTOR GIVES INTERVIEW ON ANTONOV CASE

AU221130 Sofia BTA in English 0810 GMT 22 Feb 83

["A Diversion of the Neocrusaders" -- BTA headline; quotation marks and spellings of all Turkish names as received]

[Text] Sofia, Feb 22 (BTA) -- At 22.00 hours tonight the Bulgarian television will show an interview with Dr Boyan Traykov, director general of the BULGARIAN TELEGRAPH AGENCY (BTA). The interview, devoted to the inquiry into the attempt upon the life of Pope John Paul II, produces fresh proofs in corroboration to the fact that the accusations against Bulgaria are a total falsification, the perjury is permanently manipulated and it is obvious that the inquiry is not after the truth but is serving a political provocation.

The full text of the interview follows below:

- Mr Traykov, would you kindly elaborate on how far the 'Antonov Case' has got 2 months since your press conference?

- Most often they refer to the staged probing of the assassination attempt upon Pope John Paul II as 'the Antonov case' I deny this kind of reference. We have to call things by their proper names, by names which reveal their genuine essence, and not by ones intended to have a predetermined effect. That is why I will speak about the diversion against Bulgaria, the diversion against socialism and peace. This and only this is the truth about the inquiry currently in progress at the court of justice in Rome.

Since the press conference till this day the Italian press has published a fairly great amount of 'leaked' information on the inquiry against Sergey Antonov. From this information every unbiased person got it clear that no fact, no evidence ever confirmed Antonov's complicity in the attempt. Such a fact cannot exist at all. The accusation levelled at Sergey Antonov is based on the false testimony of the assassin Agca alone. Many witnesses, honest and respectable citizens, confirmed Antonov's alibi for the days and hours of the preparations for and the actual perpetration of the attempt. It became clear that during that time the Bulgarian national was engaged in his routine work as an employee of the Rome representation of the "Balkan" airlines. And yet the state's attorney Scorza and the investigating magistrate Martella turned down the plea of Antonov's defense lawyers Consolo and Larussa to release the innocent Bulgarian national Antonov. How are we to interpret this decision? By some kind of incompetence on the part of the Italian investigation authorities? It would be so naive! For us there is no other explanation but the one pointed by the facts and which we declared already on Sergey Antonov's detention: This is a political provocation. A sort of a gas bomb meant to poison the world public opinion with slanders and mistrust in Bulgaria. For us there is no other explanation but the one that in this case the Italian legal investigation authorities do not stick to the obligatory objectivity but act in a biased manner serving the purposes of a political provocation and campaign against Bulgaria and the entire socialist community.

- Could you please explain what are the accusations levelled at Antonov and what are the grounds for them.

- The accusations levelled at Sergey Antonov have not been conveyed to us by the Italian authorities. We get the information about them from the Italian press.

Let's begin with the version proclaimed: The terrorist Agca, a member of the Turkish fascist nationalistic movement of Turks, has been connected with the Bulgarian secret services through the Turkish national Bekir Celenk. At the price of 3 million West German marks they are reported to have hired him and his fascist organisation "The Grey Wolves" to murder the pope.

In their history the Bulgarian people, the Bulgarian Communist Party, have written many a bright and heroic page in the struggle against fascism. Bulgaria is the land of the first anti-fascist uprising in the world, the homeland of Georgi Dimitrov, the titan of the international anti-fascist resistance. The socialist social system in Bulgaria was born in the struggle against and the victory over fascism. The essence of this system is profoundly anti-fascist and its attitude towards the "classical" and "modern" fascism can be nothing else but condemnation and struggle.

How is that possible at all that someone may imagine and speak of any connection between us and fascists. This is a sacrilege.

If we assume that Agca is not a lone fanaticized murderer and has acted with the help of his fascist organisation "The Grey Wolves", then what should be looked for is their natural relation, and at that with those reactionary centres which, with their money, guns and advice sponsor the extremist terroristic groups and organizations in Western Europe. That is the right place to look for. These relations are known and proved.

Very often the following question is asked: How is that possible for the assassin Agca, wanted by Interpol, to have lived at ease in Sofia's best hotels, unnoticed by the perfect Bulgarian militia? According to the checkup made of the frontier checkpoint forms a person of this name has neither entered nor left Bulgaria. They say he was in Bulgaria with a forged Indian passport under the name of Yoginder Singh. But the checking shows that in 1980 Bulgaria was crossed by not one but 18 Indian nationals of the same name of Yoginder Singh. Who of them was Agca and was there an Agca among them at all?

On December 17th I asked the absolutely logical question: Well, how did it happen that the police services of several Western European states, all of them Interpol members, warned about the terrorist, failed to notice and detain Agca who had been moving for months on end in hotels and restaurants in Switzerland and Austria, in the Federal Republic of Germany and Italy and so on and so forth. So far this question has remained unanswered.

A classical rule says: "When the trails of a crime are too clear, then there is something suspicious about it." Then? Had Bulgarian authorities been in a criminal contact with Agca, would they have shown him off in most distinguished hotels frequented by many foreigners such as "Vitosha", "Sofia" etc? Where is the logic? And if the Italian investigating magistrates pay no heed to logic, this does not mean that there is no logic at all and that it does not confute both Agca and them.

- Judging by the publications in the Italian press, the accusations against Sergey Antonov are hinged on clues produced by Agca alone. What are these clues and what is their correspondence with reality?

Agca is said to have maintained that during the time of the attempt he was at "San Pietro" Square together with Antonov. The Bulgarian's task was to shoot, to cause havoc and take Agca away to a safe place.

Antonov has neither fired a shot nor had any gun about him, and during the time of the attempt he never was at "San Pietro" Square. Many witnesses testify that Antonov was then in the Rome "Balkan" office.

"Agca revised his testimony and began alleging that he was with Antonov till 4:00 pm, implying that it was possible for Antonov to have left the square afterwards, abandoning the arrangement he had with Agca to take him away and return to his "Balkan" office instead.

- If so, after hearing over the radio that Agca was seized, would it not occur to Antonov that he would be betrayed by the Turk for having failed to rescue him? Would Antonov not board the first plane and flee from Italy? And here is yet another logical question which has so far been open -- what kind of an assailant would have remained in the respective country for a year and a half following the event, moreover "Bulgarian trail" rumors having already appeared.

"Agca gave some phone numbers of Antonov, Ayvazov and others. A note with these phone numbers was also found in his pocket on his detention. He alleged he was calling them using assumed names.

- Antonov and Ayvazov had no phones. And the other phones are of the Bulgarian Embassy and of the "Balkan" office. Is there any normal plotter who would organize such an important attempt by making connections on the embassy phones which, it is natural to assume, can be tapped. Who would allow the assaulter to carry the phone numbers about him during the attempt? In what way did Agca get in touch with Antonov and the other accomplices having known not their proper but only the assumed names? Could it well be that the lady telephone operators of the embassy were also implicated in the "plot".

"Agca alleged to have met Antonov and Ayvazov in their homes and described the interior of these apartments.

- Not only no one would conspire in his own apartment, especially in a building of the Bulgarian Embassy where Ayvazov lives and which is most probably watched, but also the description of the apartment interiors produced by Agca irrespective of what he was told and the pictures he was shown, only partially corresponds to reality. Agca for instance, mentioned certain wooden accordian-folding doors in Antonov's apartment. There are such doors in the apartment next floor above Antonov, an apartment which was empty, on sale and therefore visited by many people.

"Agca alleged he held his conversations with Antonov in the English language, and to his wife Rositsa Antonova he spoke English and German. Then?

- Sergey Antonov does not know nor speak any English. Rositsa Antonova does not know nor speak any English and German. Then?

"They say in Rome that regardless of some "slips" in Agca's testimony concerning Antonov, he could still be trusted because of his faithfulness in previous revelations.

- A previous trustworthiness is not and cannot be a criterion for a present one. And if we speak of Agca's previous trustworthiness, was he trustworhty during the trial about the papal attempt when he asserted he was acting single-handed.

We can give many more examples of ungrounded and untrue assertions, or discrepant arguments from the inquiry against Sergey Antonov. Many Italian and other foreign colleagues, as well as Bulgarian journalists, were left with the same impression, and they did write about a number of untrue or illogical facts, situations and conclusions contained in Agca's testimony against Sergey Antonov. But even these few examples we are quoting show unambiguously that the accusation against Antonov is based on Agca's testimony which is false throughout and that he could not have been able to invent and prepare this false testimony had he not been supplied with lies, taught and constantly guided by someone.

-- Please, be kind to substantiate this conclusion of yours, namely that someone is manipulating Agca.

-- In the course of the inquiry Agca kept on making changes in his testimony aimed at overwhelming Antonov's alibi as presented by his defense lawyers Consolo and Larussa, an alibi already proven true by facts and witnesses' accounts.

Antonov had a confirmed alibi for the time between 5:00 and 6:00 p.m., the hour of the attempted assassination on May 13, 1981. He was in the Balkan office, therefore he could not have been on San Pietro Square at the same time to fire a pistol and to throw a grenade, to take Agca away and rescue him as the murderer kept alleging.

In spite of the obligatory secrecy of the inquiry, in spite of the complete isolation of Agca, now note this circumstance please, he has learned about this alibi of Antonov and hastened to revise his initial testimony by saying: Now I already insist that I was with Antonov near the square until 4:00 p.m. In other words, by shifting the hours, he wants to invalidate Antonov's alibi which has already been confirmed.

Antonov had also a hard alibi for May 12, the day on which, according to the testimony of Agca, he, in the company of Antonov and Ayvazov, rehearsed the assassination on "San Pietro" Square. Antonov though, could not have been at any "rehearsal" at that time, because he was at the Bulgarian Embassy and was seen there by many people.

In spite of the obligatory secrecy of the inquiry, in spite of his isolation, Agca has learned again about this alibi of Antonov and has demanded a meeting with the investigators at which he stated: I refreshed my memory and I remember now that Antonov was not the square on May 12.

How has Agca learned exactly when and what to correct and what a new lie to invent? Isn't it clear that in the course of the inquiry his lies have been constantly steered by the same suspicious characters and services which, as has already become known, have illegally visited him in prison during his state of strict solitary confinement.

To explain these apparently manipulated changes in the testimony, or rather in Agca's lies, the Italian investigation authorities offer an interpretation which is unserious, to say the least. These are regarded as a mere expression of Agca's spontaneity and sincerity.

Whereas we state what is evident, namely that the Italian investigation authorities have been collaborating with the respective secret services in order to consolidate the charges against Antonov, thus providing legal grounds for the political provocation levelled at Bulgaria.

Since Agca is revising his testimony in order to "disprove" Antonov's alibi and since he has the support of the investigation authorities, in what way then can Antonov's innocence be proved.

-- Lies have short legs as the folk saying goes. The liar and his lie-guides have walked straight into the trap quite by themselves. In the following way:

Some witnesses have said that to the best of their knowledge around the date of May 13, 1981, which is the days preceding and during the papal assassination attempt, the wife of Antonov -- Rositsa Antonova -- was in Rome. The "directors" of Agca immediately decided to use this circumstance to further reinforce his charges against Antonov with new stronger "clues" and "evidence." And Agca, who is otherwise a criminal of a perfect memory, citing a lot of telephone numbers, describing apartments and depicting a heap of other circumstances and details, suddenly comes to recall an event -- the biggest and the most important in the whole preparation process of the assassination attempt. All of a sudden he remembered that on May 10 a most important meeting was held in Antonov's home, which was attended by Agca himself, Antonov, Ayvazov, Vasilev and four more Turks. He insists that Rositsa Antonova and a small girl of about 10, presumably the daughter of the Antonov family, then 10-year old Ani, were also present at the meeting.

Note -- this is very important! With his almost phenomenal memory, stuffed with a host of handy details, in his testimony Agca omitted not just a minor detail, but a major meeting, at which, as the newspaper IL GIORNALE says, the date and the way of carrying out the assassination were fixed and which was attended by 10 people. Apparently this was a crucial meeting.

Because of the 1 year and a half following the event, memory has failed some of the witnesses.

I dispose of information on the grounds of which I can state: On May 10, 1981, Sunday, Rositsa Antonova and Ani Antonova were not in Rome and therefore could not have attended any meeting as set forth by the assassin Agca. Rositsa Antonova left Rome on May 8 by car, she drove across Italy and Yugoslavia and on May 10, the day on which she was supposed to attend a meeting on the papal assassination in Rome in Agca's words, Rositsa Antonova was in Sofia.

Ani, the daughter of the Antonovs, has attended the Sofia school of "Kliment Okhridski" throughout the year and on May 10, the day on which Agca insisted she was in the Rome apartment of the Antonovs, she, too, was not in Italy, but in Sofia.

This fact is of enormous significance. "How come the Turk mentions dates?" asks IL MESSAGGERO while citing investigating magistrate Ilario Martella.

"And what if Rositsa Antonova was not in Italy and in Rome in January? What if on May 10, Sunday, Antonov was not at home? What if his wife was away and the apartment locked?... Then what was the accusing Turk to do? He would have been loudly refuted".

This is what is actually happening. The very fact that on the day in question, May 10, 1981, Rositsa and Ani Antonova were not in Rome, but in Sofia, and the fact that in January of 1981 Rositsa Antonova was in Sofia again and not in Rome being introduced to Agca, as the terrorist maintains, come as two more essential proofs loudly disproving the lies of Agca and refuting all those who pass the lies to him. In addition to many other facts, these, too, reveal the manipulated side and whole essence of the investigation against Antonov.

-- These proofs are indeed very substantial and crush the testimony of Agca. But isn't there a danger that he should try to "concentrate" his mind again and maintain that the actual day of the meeting was May 7, having in mind that Rositsa Antonova set out on May 8, 1981 and that he met her not in January but in some other month of the year?

-- That is precisely why we are making the entire Bulgarian and the world public familiar with these facts, not the defense lawyers of Antonov alone, so that in case Agca happens to change his mind and evidence again, everybody can see and understand and become convinced, if they have failed to do so up to now, that Agca keeps on lying and what is more with the help of the secret agencies and the cooperation of the Italian investigation authorities.

I would like to draw your attention to three amazing stands in the conduct of the Italian inquiry.

How is it possible to have predominant trust in the evidence of a habitual criminal sentenced to death for a murder and to life imprisonment for an attempted assassination against the head of the Roman-Catholic Church and to show complete lack of trust in the words of a man who has never been convicted before, a man with untainted reputation, an honest man, such as Antonov. This is contrary to both classical and modern juridical rules. Why then the Italian courts insist on knowing in advance whether a witness has been previously convicted or not, when they consider the matter of no importance at all.

How is it possible that the Italian inquiry should have no trust in the Bulgarian witness only because of their communist ideology? Don't they consider all people equal before the law? And once they distinguish between people on judgements of ideological affiliations, why should the investigation authorities then have preferences for the testimony of Agca and his criminal neo fascist ideology?

And yet another thing. There have appeared a lot of discrepant and dubious points in the accusations against Antonov. Quite unexpectedly though, instead of the classical maxim of "every doubt is in favour of the accused", in this particular case we see the working of quite a new maxim, namely that "every doubt is in favour of the accuser." We see the foundations of the ancient Roman law crumble down and precedents being set of a "new" Roman law.

-- And now, Mr Traykov, would you like to wind up by making a final comment.

-- What I like is to stress again: There is no person or organization in Bulgaria that have assigned or could have assigned Sergey Antonov, Todor Ayvazov, Zhelyo Vasilev or anybody else to commit an act against the life of Pope John Paul II. The Bulgarian "complicity" in the papal assassination attempt is a falsification. It is a conspiracy and a provocation meant to ignite the subsequent slanderous campaign against Bulgaria and against socialism in general.

Marxist-Leninist idelogy and the socialist essence of Bulgaria rule out terrorists acts, connections and complicity with terrorists and terrorist organizations. We strongly condemn terrorism's tactics and manifestations and we are actively combating international terrorism.

The prosecution initiated against Antonov has no legal grounds, it is not an error of the inquiry and still less -- a routine justification of clues. By resorting to the ready services of a slayer, a plot is being carried through in Rome's court of justice, a political plot seeking to discredit Bulgaria and socialism to spread mistrust and hatred between the states and the peoples of the two social systems.

This is the ultimate aim of the crusade against socialism, announced by the President of the United States. But while the medieval crusades were crimes and conquests against the Eastern peoples, this crusade in the nuclear world of today, is not and cannot be East-oriented only. It is a crime against all peoples, against their understanding and cooperation, it paves the way to an assault on peace, on civilization and the life of humanity.

Historical experience has taught us that political provocations and slanderous campaigns have never been an end in themselves. The fire in the Reichstag was meant to light up the rise of fascism. The Rome provocation must justify the strivings of American and NATO militarism towards world supremacy and domination.

We address all people: There is no such thing as an "Antonov case" in Rome. There is only a plot against us the Bulgarians and against all of you, against our common peace, against our common future which can be built only upon the foundations of understanding between the East and the West. There is no Rome "Antonov case". There is only a diversion of the neocrusaders.

LEADER APPEARANCES REPORTED 13-20 FEBRUARY

AU192047 [Editorial Report] Georgi Yordanov, BCP Central Committee Politburo candidate member, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the Committee for Culture, presented awards to the okrug vintners in Sliven, according to Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian at 1000 GMT on 14 February. Yordanov was also reported to have attended a session of the Ruse Okrug Cultural Committee, according to Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian at 1000 GMT on 18 February.

Chudomir Aleksandrov, BCP Central Committee secretary and first secretary of the Sofia city party committee, attended a session of the Sofia City People's Council, which discussed the development of Sofia's industry, Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian reported at 1000 GMT on 15 February.

Todor Bozhinov, BCP Central Committee Politburo members, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of metallurgy and mineral resources, attended a session of the Sofia city trade union organization, according to Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian at 1000 GMT on 15 February. Bozhinov was also reported to have attended a groundbreaking ceremony for the building of a power station in Suvorovo village, Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian reported at 1830 GMT on 15 February.

Aleksandur Lilov, Politburo member and secretary of the BCP Central Committee, attended an okrug educational and ideological conference organized by the Varna Okrug party committee, according to Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian at 1600 GMT on 16 February. Lilov was also reported to have attended a session of the Razgrad Okrug party committee on ideological matters, according to Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian at 1000 GMT on 18 February.

Stanko Todorov, BCP Central Committee Politburo member and chairman of the National Assembly attended a session of the National Assembly Commission for Social Policy, according to Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian at 1830 GMT on 17 February.

Petur Dyulgerov, BCP Central Committee Politburo candidate member and chairman of the Bulgarian Trade Unions Central Council, chaired a session of the Komsomol's leadership which dwelt with the work with children and women, Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian reported at 1830 GMT on 17 February. Dyulgerov was also reported to have attended a conference in Sofia on matters of socioeconomic development, according to Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian at 1000 GMT on 18 February.

Georgi Atanasov, BCP Central Committee secretary and chairman of the Committee for State and People's Control, attended a seminar in Sofia on ideological matters, according to Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian at 1830 GMT on 17 February.

Pencho Kubadinski, BCP Central Committee Politburo member and chairman of the Fatherland Front National Council, attended a session of the Shumen Okrug People's Council which discussed okrug economic problems, Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian reported at 1000 GMT on 18 February.

ZHIVKOV RECEIVES USSR DEPUTY PREMIER TALYZIN

AU171514 Sofia BTA in English 1455 GMT 17 Feb

[Text] Sofia, Feb 17 (BTA) -- The secretary general of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and president of the State Council, Mr Todor Zhivkov, received today here-visiting deputy chairman of the Ministerial Council of the Soviet Union, Mr Nikolay Talyzin, chairman of the Soviet part of the intergovernmental Bulgaro-Soviet Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technological Cooperation.

They discussed some problems of the bilateral economic, scientific and technological cooperation. Satisfaction was expressed with the unfailing upward development of the relations in those spheres of the national economy, with the deepening of integration between Bulgaria and the Soviet Union.

The meeting, which proceeded in cordial, comradely atmosphere, was attended by the candidate-member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and deputy chairman of the Ministerial Council, Mr Andrey Lukanov.

COMMUNICATIONS PROTOCOL WITH USSR SIGNED

AU181952 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 18 Feb 83

[Text] Toncho Chakurov, minister of machine building and electronics industry, and Erlen Pervyshin, USSR minister of communications equipment industry, signed a document reviewing the cooperation progress between the two ministries and mapping out the basic trends of the development of this cooperation during the 1986-90 period and up to 2000. During the current 5-year plan period Bulgarian deliveries of communication equipment to the Soviet Union will double as compared to the previous 5-year plan period.

DOYNOV RETURNS FROM VISIT TO CSSR 19 FEB

AU211730 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 20 Feb 83 p 2

[Text] On 19 February Ognyan Doynov, BCP Central Committee Politburo member and Central Committee secretary, returned from Prague. He paid a business visit to the CSSR at the invitation of the CPCZ Central Committee.

At Sofia airport he was greeted by Dimitur Stanishev, BCP Central Committee secretary, responsible BCP Central Committee officials, and Jaroslav Hejna, CSSR ambassador to Bulgaria.

HUNGARIAN INTERIOR MINISTER HORVATH DEPARTS

AU181527 Sofia BTA in English 1441 GMT 18 Feb 83

[Text] Sofia, February 18 (BTA) -- Mr Istvan Horvath, member of the CC of the Hungarian Socialist and Workers' Party and minister of the interior of Hungary left today.

During his visit to Bulgaria he met the management of the Ministry of the Interior. At the talks there was exchanged experience and discussions went on questions related to consolidating and developing the two ministries' cooperation in the spirit of the Friendship and Cooperation Treaty between Bulgaria and Hungary.

CHNOUPEK HAILS BLOC'S PRAGUE DECLARATION

AU221430 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 21 Feb 83 p 3

[Article by Bohuslav Chnoupek, member of the CPCZ Central Committee and CSSR minister of foreign affairs: "The Prague Declaration and Czechoslovak Foreign Policy" -- capitalized passages published in boldface]

[Text] THE WARSAW PACT MEMBER COUNTRIES BEGAN THIS YEAR WITH A PEACE OFFENSIVE OF GREAT STYLE. THEY STRETCHED OUT THEIR ARMS, OFFERING COOPERATION TO EVERYONE WILLING TO TAKE PART IN AVERTING THE NUCLEAR CATASTROPHE AND WARS AND CALLED FOR CONCERTED ACTION IN STRENGTHENING PEACE, INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, AND THE POLICY OF DETENTE AND DISARMAMENT. THE NEW INITIATIVE-FILLED PEACE PROPOSALS CONTAINED IN THE POLITICAL DECLARATION ADOPTED BY THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE SESSION OF THE WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES' POLITICAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE IN PRAGUE ARE ENCOUNTERING WORLDWIDE RESPONSE. THEY ARE IN THE CENTER OF ATTENTION OF EVERYONE WHO REALIZES HIS RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE FATE OF THE HUMAN RACE. THEY ARE CLEARLY BECOMING THE POINT OF DEPARTURE IN SHAPING A WORLD POLICY CORRESPONDING TO THE REALITIES AND NEEDS OF THE PRESENT COMPLEX STAGE OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, A STAGE THAT IS FULL OF CONTRADICTIONS.

This fact proves anew that SOCIALISM IS STRONG ENOUGH TO FACE UP TO THE THREAT OF WAR POSED BY THE MILITARISTS. AT THE SAME TIME, IT POSSESSES ENOUGH POLITICAL WISDOM TO STEER DEVELOPMENTS IN A DIRECTION THAT GUARANTEES SAFETY TO THE NATIONS AND ENOUGH ENERGY TO ATTAIN BY ITS OWN RESOURCES, INFLUENCE AND PRESTIGE AN IMPROVEMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATMOSPHERE. Socialism also has enough courage to thwart the efforts of the most reactionary imperialist forces to isolate the countries of the socialist community, weaken their positions in the world and force them to back away from the theory and practice of Marxism-Leninism, from socialist internationalism.

Unchanged Policy

THIS INEXHAUSTIBLE PEACE-MAKING POTENTIAL OF SOCIALISM IS FULLY REFLECTED IN THE POLITICAL DECLARATION, WHICH IS UNUSUALLY INTELLECTUALLY STIMULATING AND WHICH TAKES THE OFFENSIVE. IT CONSTITUTES A COMPREHENISVE SET OF MEASURES AIMED AT PREVENTING A NUCLEAR WAR, HALTING THE PRESENT DANGEROUS DEVELOPMENT OF EVENTS, PROMOTING MUTUAL TRUST AND SOLVING, ONE BY ONE, THE TASKS OF LIMITING AND REDUCING THE ARMS ARSENALS, ESPECIALLY NUCLEAR WEAPONS. This document of a truly unusual importance reliably demonstrates the irrefutable fact that the socialist countries' proposals embody the constructive, positive and life-giving trend of world politics. It is the trend which is called for by the world community, which is exhausted by the burden of armament and which is filled with anxiety about its future. The socialist countries propose to all other states to remove the sources of tension and the barrier of distrust in East-West relations and to make these relations genuinely correct, as should be between partners. The socialist countries propose to improve the international atmosphere and to rid it of defects such as a prior I distrust, bias and the tendency toward hostility.

The direction formulated in Prague is clear and comprehensible. The Prague proposals AFFIRM THE UNCHANGING LINE OF THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES, WHICH ASSERT THE POLICY OF PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE AMONG STATES WITH DIFFERENT SOCIAL SYSTEMS WHILE AT THE SAME TIME SEEKING NEW PATHS TOWARD THE UNCHANGING GOALS OF THEIR FOREIGN POLICY. The proposals represent a meticulously thought-out offer to DISENTANGLE THE MOST URGENT PROBLEMS OF THE PRESENT. NATURALLY, THIS MUST HAPPEN ON THE BASIS OF MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTIONS COMPLYING WITH THE INTEREST OF ALL SIDES, SOLUTIONS THAT PROCEED FROM THE PRINCIPLES OF EQUALITY AND EQUAL SECURITY: THE ONLY POSSIBLE PRODUCTIVE METHOD OF CONDUCTING NEGOTIATIONS. The Prague declaration is thus organically linked with the basic political positions on which the Warsaw Pact has stood throughout its existence.

This important document simultaneously significantly enriches the methodology of a scientifically-based approach to central world political problems. This is testified to, above all, by the way in which the Prague declaration carries out a PROFOUND ANALYSIS OF THE BASIC EVENTS, characterizing the two poles of the present international situation: a positive pole, whose potential is represented by the antiwar policy of the socialist states and all peace movements and forces: and a negative pole, called forth by the policy of confrontation pursued by the forces of imperialism, headed by its American protagonists.

The Political Consultative Committee warns with all due earnestness that the development and deployment of ever new systems of nuclear weapons and other means of mass destruction would undermine even further the stability of the military-strategic situation, increase international tension and complicate interstate relations. It stresses, furthermore, that any new escalation of the arms race is incompatible with maintaining the military-strategic balance at increasingly lower levels and that it can have only one result -- peace will be threatened even more and will become even more frail. Quite logically, it calls to mind that any new round of the arms race will make nuclear weapons and other means of mass destruction even more complicated, which will make it much more difficult to work out international agreements on limiting and reducing their numbers.

A Far-Reaching Project

It is possible, and necessary, to get out of this vicious circle. The guidelines submitted for this purpose by the socialist countries in the form of the proposals contained in the Prague declarations are absolutely reliable. The dominant place among them is held by the proposal of a TREATY ON MUTUALLY RENOUNCING THE USE OF FORCE AND MAINTAINING RELATIONS OF PEACE BETWEEN THE WARSAW PACT AND NATO MEMBER STATES. Why precisely between the Warsaw Pact and NATO? Because they are the two largest and strongest military groupings and directly face each other. The conclusion of such a treaty between them would have a beneficial influence on the situation in Europe and in the world at large.

What is involved is, undoubtedly, a far-reaching project of peaceful settlement because it DOES NOT CONTAIN JUST THE COMMITMENT NOT TO USE MILITARY FORCE. IT CONTAINS YET ANOTHER IMPORTANT COMMITMENT -- TO MAINTAIN THE RELATIONS OF PEACE AND TO PROMOTE AND DEEPEN THEM. The proposed treaty proceeds from the principles of the UN Charter, which prohibits the use of force against the territorial integrity and political independence of other states. The proposed treaty confirms this principle and maximally details it, by proposing the commitment NOT TO BE THE FIRST TO USE EITHER NUCLEAR OR CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS AGAINST EACH OTHER. It creatively applies this principle to the conditions of the present international situation, thus representing an impetus for bringing about a turnabout in the relations between the Warsaw Pact and NATO, for strengthening trust between them.

An important step in this direction is the commitment of states, contained in the proposed treaty, not to endanger the safety of naval, air and outer space communications passing through areas that do not form part of their state territory. Given the existence of hotbeds of tension and conflict situations in various parts of the world, in which, frequently, precisely the problems of international communications become particularly sensitive, the adoption of such a measure would be exceedingly important. The proposal also makes specific the commitment to renounce the use of force, by suggesting that the member states of the two alliances adopt a similar commitment VIS-A-VIS THIRD COUNTRIES, regardless of whether these are countries with which they have bilateral ties of alliance or whether the countries concerned are nonaligned or neutral.

One can say that the proposal to conclude the aforementioned treaty on renouncing the use of military force is absolutely clear, businesslike and practical.

It accurately defines the scope and the sphere of the validity of the commitments. It determines the circle of participants in this treaty and provides for a linkage between the commitments arising from the treaty and provisions about enhancing the role of the United Nations as a worldwide instrument of collective security. THERE DO NOT EXIST, AND CANNOT EXIST, ANY HISTORICAL PARALLELS BETWEEN THIS TREATY AND FORMER NON-AGGRESSION TREATIES. THE TREATY DOES NOT REPRESENT, IN FACT, THE GOAL OR THE CULMINATION OF THE ENDEAVOR TO ELIMINATE THE THREAT OF WAR. IT IS A FIRM PART OF AND A POWERFUL IMPETUS FOR THE PROCESS OF EASING CONFRONTATION.

It also provides for adopting the commitment to conduct negotiations in a spirit of goodwill on effective measures for halting the arms race, limiting and reducing armaments and for disarmament and to contribute to their successful conclusion. It demands that the participants in the treaty jointly assess practical measures aimed at averting the threat of a sudden attack. It takes into account the specific features of the current state of international relations and the special status of individual states. It does not concentrate on NATO and the Warsaw Pact alone, but furnishes ALL NONALIGNED AND NEUTRAL COUNTRIES IN EUROPE AND OTHER CONTINENTS with the right and opportunity to JOIN THE TREATY.

It is thus absolutely clear that the objective of the proposed treaty is not to compete with the ban on the use of force enshrined in the UN Charter and the Helsinki Final Act but, on the contrary, to complement and develop it. This proposed treaty simply seeks to maximally contribute to reinforcing this ban and to achieving that the ban on the use of force in international relations becomes a genuine law of international life. That is also why the objections to the effect that the socialist countries' proposal contains nothing new and, allegedly, only reiterates the provisions of the UN Charter, do not hold water.

It Is the West's Turn

From among the other very important ideas, initiatives, proposals and positions of the Warsaw Pact countries' Political Consultative Committee formulated at the Prague session, we must refer to those passages of the declaration that emphasize the IMPORTANCE OF THE SOVIET UNION'S COMMITMENT NOT TO BE THE FIRST TO USE NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND WHICH EXPRESS THE EXPECTATION THAT THE OTHER NUCLEAR POWERS, TOO, WILL TAKE A SIMILAR STEP. The declaration calls for resolutely activating disarmament talks and renewing those that have been suspended, with the aim of reaching agreements that guarantee a reduction and liquidation of weapons, especially nuclear weapons. For this to happen, the Warsaw Pact countries show in their Prague declaration in great detail, point by point, proposal by proposal, from nuclear to chemical down to conventional weapons, the path that must be taken if we want to save our civilization from vanishing biologically. The socialist countries regard as absolutely essential and unpostponable THE ATTAINMENT OF A RESOLUTE TURNABOUT, ABOVE ALL, AT THE SOVIET-AMERICAN TALKS ON LIMITING AND REDUCING THE NUMBER OF STRATEGIC WEAPONS AND ON LIMITING NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN EUROPE. PROGRESS AT THESE TALKS IS THE OBJECTIVE OF THE NEW SOVIET PROPOSALS OF 21 DECEMBER LAST YEAR THAT WERE SUBMITTED BY YURIY ANDROPOV, GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

The participants in the Prague session advocated a new practical step in the sense of reducing the USSR's and the United States' troops and equipment in central Europe, on the basis of mutual example. "The implementation of this step could be supervised by representatives of both sides," the Prague declaration says. "After its conclusion, the numbers of troops and amount of equipment of the direct participants in the Vienna talks would be frozen on both sides, until an agreement at the talks is reached. The participants in the session assume that following the first mutual reduction of troops and equipment in central Europe, the talks would continue and one would expeditiously take steps toward another, greater reduction."

IT IS THUS THE WEST'S TURN. PRECISELY NOW IT HAS THE BEST OPPORTUNITY FOR IT. On 27 January, a new round of Soviet-American talks on reducing nuclear weapons in Europe opened in Geneva. The same day, talks on reducing the numbers of troops and equipment in central Europe reopened in Vienna. And, again in Geneva, the UN Committee for Disarmament has been in session since 1 February and, since 2 February, delegations of the USSR and the United States have been conducting talks on limiting and reducing the number of strategic weapons. In Madrid, delegations of the signatory states of the Helsinki Final Act resumed their talks on 8 February. The key question of this meeting is the adoption of a substantial and well-balanced document that would contain the agreement to convene a conference on confidence-building measures and disarmament in Europe.

It must be stressed that the final drafting and adoption of the final document of this important forum, which would also lay down further measures for developing cooperation in the political, economic, humanitarian and other areas and for ensuring continuity of the all-European process, including its organizational framework, is possible only when the conclusions established in it will be acceptable to all participating states. The socialist countries believe that all the constructive things that began so promisingly in Helsinki 8 years ago will be further qualitatively improved when the Madrid meeting ends fruitfully, with a substantial and well-balanced final document.

It is also essential that Europe be rid of such means of mass destruction as CHEMICAL WEAPONS. Here, too, it is necessary to study all feasible paths and means leading to the solution of this problem and to start talks between interested states. The talks should be conducted in such a way as to ensure a speedy final drafting of an international treaty on banning chemical weapons and liquidating them. Of great significance is also the initiative of the Warsaw Pact countries aimed at reaching such a broadly-based agreement, according to which the European Continent would be rid once and for all of all types of chemical weapons.

For a number of years, the Warsaw Pact member countries have been warning with all due responsibility that extensive armed conflicts may be triggered by the kindling of a spark on a regional scale. However, they do not confine themselves to this statement. They also show the paths of forestalling such a dangerous development. THE PRAGUE DECLARATION STATES QUITE CLEARLY IN THIS RESPECT THAT "IMPROVING THE SITUATION IN THE WORLD IS, TO A CONSIDERABLE DEGREE, CONNECTED WITH LIQUIDATING THE EXISTING AND AVERTING THE OUTBREAK OF NEW HOTBEDS OF WAR CONFLICTS IN ASIA, AFRICA, LATIN AMERICA AND OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD."

The socialist countries proceed from the fact that there are no problems -- global or regional -- which could not be justly resolved through negotiations, that is, exclusively through peaceful means. This, however, presupposes -- as the Political Declaration stresses -- that everyone should really recognize the legitimate rights of the people of all countries; that only they -- without any outside interference -- should decide about their internal affairs and participate on the basis of equal rights in international life; that everyone respect the independence, territorial integrity and inviolability of states' borders; that the principle be observed of not using force and not threatening with force; and that no power try to conduct the policy of hegemonism and determine the spheres of its interests or spheres of its influence.

What is particularly necessary is to begin without delay resolving the Middle East conflict, which is highly dangerous and protracted. The socialist countries have a positive attitude toward the principles for settling the Middle East problem determined at the session of the heads of Arab states and governments in Fes and are in favor of a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East.

To do that, in their view, it is necessary to convene an international conference, attended by all interested parties, including the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Arab people of Palestine.

With full responsibility, the Warsaw Pact countries draw attention to the fact that the danger of transforming local conflicts into an armed global-wide encounter is very closely connected with the efforts to drag -- directly or indirectly -- the states of Asia, Africa, Latin America and Oceania into military-political alliances and include them in the sphere of the blocs' activity. The participants in the Prague session affirm that the Warsaw Pact's member states have no intention of expanding the sphere of their alliance's activity and appeal also to the NATO member states to renounce expanding the sphere of their bloc's activity to any other part of the world, particularly to the Persian Gulf.

Any deliberation as regards the current state of international relations and the influence which the socialist countries have on their development should not ignore the undeniable fact that THEIR DIPLOMATIC PEACE OFFENSIVE OBJECTIVELY IDENTIFIES ITSELF WITH THE ENDEAVORS OF THE ANTINUCLEAR MOVEMENT IN THE CAPITALIST COUNTRIES. Of course, one has to reject with absolute resolve fabrications saying that the peace initiatives of socialism are allegedly proposed with the sole intention of kindling anti-American sentiments among the West European public, and even to direct the organizing of the peace movements and antimissile demonstrations in the NATO states for political objectives of the East. To that one has to say: If the foreign policy of the socialist countries in many respects draws close to the objectives of the peace movements, then this is done not on an instruction, but it is quite a natural and logical path, because both pursue an identical objective: halting the feverish armament and averting the danger of war. The peace-loving public in the West is increasingly in favor of the constructive, initiative-like proposals of the socialist countries and demands from their governments a pragmatic and responsible attitude to these displays of goodwill. At the same time the support of the Warsaw Pact's peace proposals has now greatly increased. Every government which wants to show a policy that is at least a bit serious should consider this fact.

Coordinated Course

The peaceful construction in the socialist countries is closely connected with the development of peaceful foreign policy. This is a logical and organic interdependence, because the magnificent program of building a new society, planned ahead for entire decades, can be successfully fulfilled only in peaceful conditions. CZECHOSLOVAKIA, AS ITS DELEGATION AFFIRMED AT THE PRAGUE SESSION OF THE POLITICAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE, WILL -- WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF A COORDINATED COURSE WITH THE SOVIET UNION AND THE FRATERNAL SOCIALIST COUNTRIES -- MAXIMALLY CONTRIBUTE TO THE LATEST PROPOSALS OF THE WARSAW PACT BECOMING AN IMPETUS FOR FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS ON STRENGTHENING THE STABILITY AND SECURITY IN EUROPE AND ON STRENGTHENING TRUST AMONG THE EUROPEAN STATES. Czechoslovakia is fully prepared for this peacemaking endeavor. It wants to help particularly by propagating and asserting the fundamental philosophy of the Prague declaration: If one is to succeed in reducing tension, confrontation and mistrust between the Warsaw Pact states and NATO, one has to start with the most fundamental thing -- renouncing the use of military force against one another.

In this connection it is necessary to emphasize that, as it was agreed at the Prague session, our country has the task to supply detailed information about the Political Declaration to all states which attended the Helsinki conference, as well as to all non-European socialist countries and to the Coordinating Bureau of the Nonaligned Movement. Czechoslovakia also was entrusted with the task of ensuring the proliferation of the declaration as an official UN document.

This important mission entrusted to Czechoslovak foreign policy is being fulfilled at the same time in the course of a number of diplomatic meetings and deliberations.

TO US IT IS PLEASING THAT MUCH OF THE REACTION IS MARKED BY STRONG ELEMENTS OF RESPONSIBILITY. Among the realistic circles and the progressive and peace-loving forces, which today are in an absolute preponderance, the reactions on the whole are hopeful. We value the reaction of many nonaligned and neutral countries. We also are pleased by the appreciation expressed by UN General Secretary Javier de Cuellar, who depicted it as the "expression of the positive attitude of the Warsaw Pact countries vis-a-vis the UN and its Charter."

The reaction to the Prague proposals this time was MORE SOBER ALSO FROM THOSE CIRCLES WHICH IN THE PAST USED TO REJECT ON PRINCIPLE ANYTHING THAT CAME FROM THE EAST. Some declared openly that they welcome the Warsaw Pact's willingness to take part in a dialogue and cooperation and that the initiatives of the Prague session "could constitute an important contribution toward improving the international situation." Almost all leading representatives of the NATO countries have promised to study the proposals submitted to them. It will be shown in the near future how these intentions were meant and whether these were sincere assurances. It is common knowledge that, in this process of "studying" the socialist countries' disarmament proposals, those whom it concerned in the West usually made it a practice to put these initiatives in the archives. In this respect the socialist countries have not been generating any pressure, not forcing anyone to hurry or even to make rash decisions. On the contrary, they are saying that the West should study the Warsaw Pact's peace proposals properly and in detail. But looking for some sort of a trap or concealed meaning in them is an unnecessary waste of time and energy. And the time factor, after all -- especially in this case -- plays a very important role. We come across the view among many sober-thinking Western politicians that the PRAGUE DECLARATION HAS COME AT THE RIGHT TIME. They are certainly right when they say that in a situation where a number of reliable indications -- unfortunately -- point to an early launching of another, qualitatively more dangerous round of a feverish arms buildup, the Prague proposals provide important impetus FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A POLITICAL DIALGOUE BETWEEN EAST AND WEST. And, obviously, this is also impetus FOR A CRYSTALLIZATION OF VIEWS ON THE FUNDAMENTAL ISSUES OF WAR AND PEACE in the political circles of the Western countries and among the public. More than one of these realistic political figures -- no matter whether they belong to this or that political party or whether they are of this or that weltanschauung [world outlook] -- express the view that the NATO states should respond positively. Also there are those states, whose representatives -- while considering various election or other "problems" -- continue to tactically mark time.

From the response to the Prague declaration it also arises that an increasing number of politically engaged Western personalities realize that the danger for West European cities will be not smaller but greater should the planned deployment of new American intermediate-range nuclear missiles occur. And equally they increasingly realize also the unreality of the so-called zero option as a way out of the emerging blind alley as regards searching for ways to limit nuclear weapons on the continent.

Question of Verification

When asserting the proposals contained in the Political Declaration we also come across views which are TRYING TO DEVALUE IT BY DOUBTING OUR WILL AND WILLINGNESS TO ACCEDE TO INTERNATIONAL CONTROLS OF THE MEASURES AGREED IN THE SPHERE OF DISARMAMENT AND MILITARY DETENTE. WE REFER THESE DOUBTERS ONCE MORE TO THE TEXT OF THE PRAGUE DECLARATION.

Specifically,

ITS PERTINENT PASSAGE CONCERNING VERIFICATION AGAIN AND QUITE UNAMBIGUOUSLY AFFIRMS THE WILLINGNESS AND READINESS OF THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES TO SERIOUSLY NEGOTIATE ABOUT DISARMAMENT MEASURES AND CONCLUDE PERTINENT AGREEMENTS, INCLUDING VERIFICATION MEASURES. AND, OF COURSE, WHERE NECESSARY ALSO INTERNATIONAL PROCEDURES. But the verification measures, so to speak, must be "made to measure." That means that they must correspond to the objectives, extent and orientation of a specific agreement. It is natural that the verification measures cannot be self-serving. After all, there is no sense in abstractly discussing questions of verification without disarmament proper, as the Western states often assert.

The character of verification, its orientation and specifics can only be determined during negotiations pertaining to specific disarmament measures. EXPERIENCE SHOWS THAT DIFFERENT AGREEMENTS REQUIRE DIFFERENT VERIFICATION MEASURES. That also applies when determining whether an appropriate agreement requires only verification by national instruments or whether is it necessary to employ the appropriate international procedure. What is involved, for example, are mutual consultations of participants in agreements, the submitting of complaints to the UN Security Council, which -- in accord with the UN Charter -- can then investigate whether the adopted agreement was violated, as is the case with the convention on the ban of the production of biological weapons or the treaty on the ban of the deployment of nuclear or other types of mass destruction weapons on the seabed. In this connection it is necessary to emphasize that some of the agreements already concluded contain effective verification measures, including international procedures encompassing also local inspections. They function reliably and acquit themselves well. For example, let us take the treaty on the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons. Each year inspectors of the International Atomic Energy Agency arrive in Czechoslovakia, where they check our nuclear installations and ascertain whether or not they are being used for military purposes.

These and a number of other responses only prove that the stimuli originating from the Political Consultative Committee are a significant step in the right direction. They constitute a reliable foundation for improving the international atmosphere. They create the basic prerequisite of the process of eliminating mistrust. They are a reliable instruction for applying the policy of the relaxation of tensions also in the military sphere.

THE ENDEAVOR OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK FOREIGN SERVICE WILL CONTINUE TO ORIENT ITSELF TOWARD INCREASING THE CSSR'S ACTIVE SHARE IN THE ASSERTION OF THE PEACE PROPOSALS OF THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, PARTICULARLY THOSE PROPOSALS WHICH HAVE THEIR ORIGIN IN THE PRAGUE SESSION OF THE WARSAW PACT'S POLITICAL COMMITTEE.

This will be so, be they in the disarmament negotiations of the UN Disarmament Committee in Geneva or the Vienna talks on reducing the numerical strength of armed forces and armaments in central Europe, in which we are direct participants, or in the International Atomic Energy Agency, in which our delegate at present has the function of chairman of the Council of Governors, or be it our honest and thorough preparation of the 38th session of the UN General Assembly and other international forums.

However, we will make particular use of the session of the committee of the ministers of foreign affairs of the Warsaw Pact countries, which, among other things, will have the task of preparing the concrete text of the draft treaty on the nonuse of military force and maintaining peaceful relations between the Warsaw Pact member states and NATO. We are preparing for the session, at which we will exchange with the other fraternal socialist countries information and findings gained in the work connected with explaining our common draft treaty; at which we will assess the results of the consultations contacts and negotiations carried out with representatives of various countries; and at which we will determine the guidelines of the further coordinated course aimed at asserting these very demanding and stimulating initiatives of the Warsaw Pact.

We will also use the forum of the WORLD ASSEMBLY FOR PEACE AND LIFE AND AGAINST NUCLEAR WAR, which will be held in Prague in the second half of June, for asserting peace initiatives. The fact that we will be able to actively coparticipate in this important event, from the rostrum of which will again resound the mobilizing voice of peace, is an honor for us and an obligation.

[The text of the Chnoupek article is also carried by Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak on 21 Feb, p 3]

PAPER PREVIEWS JUNE PRAGUE PEACE ASSEMBLY

AU151150 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 12 Feb 83 p 6

[Vladimir Janku article: "On the Prague Declaration of the Warsaw Pact Member Countries: Let Us Not Erect Barriers Among States"]

[Excerpt] The World Assembly for Peace and Life and Against Nuclear War, which will be held in Prague in June, is to play a key role as regards mobilizing and strengthening further the cohesion of world peace forces.

The Prague assembly will not only be an event having an extraordinary impact but also one of extraordinary character. In Prague representatives of various countries, nations, political parties and movements will meet, people of various political views, ideologies, philosophic conviction and religions, representatives of state agencies, and leading representatives of world, social and political movements. In Prague spokesmen of workers and farmers, of women, youth, scientists, artists, educators, physicians and members of the legal profession will meet.

In Prague people who often have differing views as regards mankind's specific future, who have differing affinities for this or that social order will meet. However, they will be united by one thing: by a profound conviction that mankind must continue to exist, that the problems of the current world cannot be resolved in any other way than on a platform of peace, that the immense new possibilities and new forces which have been and are being discovered by the scientific-technical revolution must not be misused for unleashing an apocalypse in the world, but must serve the interests of mankind, the interests of peace and the happiness of man.

The World Assembly for Peace and Life and Against Nuclear War will be a platform for a broad discussion -- an open and free discussion, a discussion in which, understandably, there will resound all kinds of voices, all kinds of views. But the things that unite all people of good will in the conditions of the present international development are much stronger and much more important than the things that divide them. The declaration of the USSR Supreme Soviet rightly emphasizes that "...if the states and nations unite their forces, they will be able to eliminate the danger of war, maintain and strengthen peace in the world and ensure man's right to life."

BILAK RECEIVES ANC SECRETARY GENERAL NZO

LD221756 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 21 Feb 83

[Text] Vasil Bilak, Presidium member and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, today received Alfred Nzo, secretary general of the African National Congress [ANC] in connection with his stay in Czechoslovakia.

Alfred Nzo gave information about the struggle of the African National Congress against the apartheid regime in South Africa which cruelly suppresses the overwhelming majority of the country's population and, at the same time, attempts to destablize the neighboring independent states.

He said that the South African regime has become an instrument of United States imperialism, implementing its political and strategic interests in Africa.

Vasil Bilak stressed that Czechoslovakia consistently supports the liberation movement of the African people. He expressed the conviction that the struggle of the African National Congress against the hateful regime of the racist minority in South Africa will be successful and also the people of Namibia will achieve liberation from the colonial rule of the RSA.

The conversation took place in a friendly atmosphere.

CONTINUING GROWTH OF RELATIONS WITH SRV NOTED

LD222130 Prague CTK in English 1323 GMT 11 Feb 83

[Text] Hanoi (CETEKA correspondent) -- The Czechoslovak-Vietnamese Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation, signed during a visit to Vietnam of a Czechoslovak party and state delegation headed by Communist Party General Secretary and President Gustav Husak three years ago, February 14, is of extraordinary importance for allround dynamic development of bilateral relations.

The foundations for the traditional friendly ties between the two countries were laid by the late presidents, Klement Gottwald and Ho Chi Minh, who worked togehter in the international communist movement.

Czechoslovakia extended help to Vietnam after the victory in the wars against the French colonialists and American aggressors, and after the reunification of the two parts of the country into the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

The first agreement on economic aid was concluded 28 years ago, and is thus after the USSR, Vietnam's oldest partner in economic relations and trade.

Under other agreements signed in later years, Czechoslovakia extended Vietnam valuable material aid and long-term credits, and under the treaty the third anniversary of which is observed these days, a number of positive results have been achieved.

One of them is the quantitatively and qualitatively higher level of economic cooperation in the footwear, textile and electrical engineering industries.

The current five-year plan period, the volume of Czechoslovak-Vietnamese trade is to double in comparison with 1976-1980. Also important is Czechoslovakia's assistance in the form of training of Vietnamese personnel. At present, some 30,000 apprentices and workers are being trained or work in Czechoslovak factories. Work is in progress on coordination of the national economic plans of the two countries for 1986-1990.

Czechoslovak-Vietnamese relations, based on the principles of socialist internationalism, contribute to efforts at peace and stability not only in Southeast Asia but in the whole world.

FISCHER, SWEDISH ENVOY DISCUSS SWEDISH INITIATIVE

LD230629 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1250 GMT 22 Feb 83

[Text] Berlin, 22 Feb (ADN) -- Relations between the GDR and Sweden are developing on the basis of a good-neighborly relationship and are contributing to peace and detente. This was stated by GDR Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer and Ambassador Lennart Eckerberg, head of the Political Section of the Swedish Foreign Ministry, during a meeting in Berlin on Monday. They spoke out in favor of further developing these relations in the spirit of the principles of peaceful coexistence.

Ambassador Eckerberg explained the Swedish initiative on the creation of a European zone free of nuclear weapons. Foreign Minister Fischer underlined the GDR's support for this proposal. The letter from Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED and chairman of the GDR State Council, to FRG Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl met with a broad, positive response in many countries.

Both politicians agreed that implementation of the Swedish initiative would promote confidence, reduce confrontation, and positively influence political dialogue and hence create greater security in Europe. It would also have a favorable effect on the Geneva talks on reducing nuclear weapons.

Despite individual voices of rejection, the Swedish proposal remains on the table since the attempts to create nuclear-free zones are increasingly gaining ground.

Oskar Fischer explained the Political Declaration adopted in Prague by the Warsaw Pact members which contained comprehensive proposals for improving the international climate and reducing military confrontation. The GDR is prepared to extend a hand to everyone who is working genuinely for peace, security and disarmament and for peaceful coexistence between states and peoples.

Ambassador Eckerberg was in the GDR at the invitation of Deputy Foreign Minister Kurt Nier for consultations on bilateral and international issues. These took place in a businesslike and open atmosphere.

YOUNG CHRISTIANS CRITICIZE THURINGIAN CHURCH

DW180957 Frankfurt FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE in German 17 Feb 83 p 3

["Text" of letter from 18 young GDR Christians in Saalfeld and Rudolstadt, Gera Bezirk, to the leaders of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Thuringia; date not given]

[Text] We have learned of our Land church leaders' statement on Western media reports on events in Jena -- we, meaning, young Christians from Saalfeld and Rudolstadt. We have contact with Jena and know about events there. We are ashamed by the words of our church leaders.

There was not one sentence about the wave of arrests in Jena. At least 14 persons are in prison and there probably will be more of them every week. For example, there is Frank Rub, a painter who has often given exhibitions in churches, and there is singer Peter Kaehler who performed last year at the church peace seminar in Koenigswalde. In their pictures, poems, and songs, both deal with the life of soldiers and the fear of war. Others are charged with making postcards and collages on the peace problem. Petra Falkenberg is the only woman who is imprisoned. This is probably intended as a warning to other women. She was arrested because she recently supported a published letter by several GDR women criticizing the inclusion of women in the military draft. Petra Falkenberg's car was confiscated because she used it to drive to the trial of a friend in Gera.

In January Roland John was sentenced to 22 months imprisonment because of a collage he had made and because he had a Polish flag attached to his bicycle. He has been in jail since September 1982. Other people in Jena are under accusation because of a peace document in which they support a nuclear-free zone in Europe and social peace service in the GDR, and object to any kind of glorification of violence. Their theses are no different from those of other Christian peace groups in the GDR. In Jena there was no room for them in the church, so they are now in state security custody. There is also stoker Michael Rost. In late January he was fined M750 because he participated in a minute of peace commemoration, and in early February he was placed in pretrial confinement. Other people from Jena, including a pastor, were only interrogated. At least 20 apartments were searched. Christian materials were also confiscated.

The church management leaders did not say a word about the insults against young Christians and other friends of "the youth community of Jena." They wanted to observe a minute's silence on Christmas Eve to call attention to the fact that more must be done to preserve peace in the world. However, state authorities spoke about a demonstration by military service objectors, claiming that church dignitaries marched in the first row. Why did the church leaders cancel a peace service in the town church in February 1982? Why were there no clear peace statements during the peace decade in Jena? Why is it impossible to have a peace workshop in Jena as in Berlin?

Not a word was said by the church management publicly about the death of Matthias Domaschk. He was said to have hung himself in April 1981 after 48 hours of interrogation by the state security service. That was immediately before he was to be released. His friend who was interrogated at the same time doesn't believe it. Domaschk was also interrogated because of his cooperation with the "young community" and because of his contacts with Christian groups in other cities. His death threatens all of us. Now we hear from Jena that chairs have been overthrown in an interrogation. This is a threat with physical violence.

Not a word was said by the church management about the confiscation of a sculpture by Michael Blumhagen from a churchyard in April 1982. He devoted it to the memory of Domaschk and gave the sculpture to the cemetery. The responsible parson didn't undertake anything to prevent the illegal removal. The sculpture was said to have been stolen from state custody. The church management didn't undertake anything to get it back. It didn't demand any restitution. It didn't care about Michael Blumhagen when he was arrested because of conscientious objection. I didn't comment on the tearing down of his house during his imprisonment.

In our commitment to God we consider ourselves peacemakers. We want to bear witness against those creating discord. Our action for Jesus will, naturally, first take place in church rooms. There is a limit, however, when outside silence would turn into complicity. Once before in recent German history all Christians were facing this painful problem. We consider ourselves as belonging to the tradition on the confessional church. The right to fulfill your military service as construction soldier is being curtailed at present. We cannot reject responsibility if we feel irritated by it. Those also need assistance who are not yet convinced Christians but who seek contacts with us.

We want to pray for those imprisoned in Jena. All parsons in Thuringia should include Frank Rub, Peter Kaehler, Petra Falkenberg, Michael Rost and the other imprisoned persons in their prayers during service. We ask the church management for a clear statement. We ask for support of the dependents of the imprisoned.

Effects of Jena Events

DW 211343 Frankfurt FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE in German 21 Feb 83 p 3

[Text] Berlin, 20 February -- Bishop Leich of the Evangelical-Lutheran Church in Thuringia has commented on various effects of the Jena events to journalists in Eisleben. We herewith publish the text of his statement:

"1. The Evangelical-Lutheran Church in Thuringia is very deeply involved in the independent peace work performed by the GDR churches in connection with ecumenism. Our communities are oriented accordingly. If individual groups start actions on their own that go beyond this work, then we cannot always later describe these actions as initiated by the church.

"2. It is in the nature of the church that we also stand up for those who have gotten into trouble even if we do not share their motivation and conviction.

"3. This, however, is not to be done in public but rather through direct contacts.

"4. Up to now we have always attached importance to taking such steps through direct contact and not indirectly via Western media or periodicals. This has always paid off.

"The concrete facts are as follows: We do not have any letter from Saalfeld and Rudolstadt in Eisenach. And the 2 superintendents of Saalfeld and Rudolstadt, who are closely linked to youth work, have informed us that the young people have themselves said that they have never wrote any such letter and that they also would not have done so without first seeking to contact us directly.

"And finally: The essence of what was passed on by our press office to the accredited journalists is the statement that we, as the Thuringia Land church, are surprised to see that commentaries are being published on the basis of facts that no journalist ever bothered to discuss with us. We have expressed our conviction that, had we been consulted, the description of these facts presumably would have looked somewhat different. This is what I want to tell you in brief on the matter."

USSR'S BAYBAKOV VISITS BERLIN, TOURS FACTORY

LD221809 East Berlin Domestic Service in German 2100 GMT 21 Feb 83

[Text] With a view to the forthcoming 30th meeting of the CEMA planning committee, the chairpersons of the planning committees of the GDR and the USSR, Gerhard Schuerer and Nikolay Baybakov, today visited the Marzahn machine tool factory in Berlin. The enterprise is included in the bilateral governmental agreement concluded in 1981 on cooperation in the sphere of industrial robots. During a walk through the Marzahn factory the acting director (Hans-Joachim Obers) praised the cooperation with enterprises and institutes in the USSR which had been maintained over decades. This was of great importance in the development of the enterprise as an efficient producer of machinery and robots.

POLAND'S OLSZOWSKI PAYS OFFICIAL VISIT

Talks With Lazár, Puja

LD222038 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1800 22 Feb 83

[Text] Minister of Foreign Affairs Stefan Olszowski, who is on an official friendship visit in Hungary, was today received by Gyorgy Lazar, Politburo member and chairman of the Hungarian Council of Ministers. They discussed economic issues and expressed the need for more flexible goods exchanges between Poland and Hungary. Plenary talks were also concluded today between Ministers Frigyes Puja and Stefan Olszowski. At the talks, held in a friendly and fraternal atmosphere, the ministers briefed each other on the situation in their countries, and on the implementation of the decisions of the 12th MSZMP Congress and of the Ninth PZPR Congress.

The Polish side gave information about the formation of the front of national accord in our country. During the talks broad political contacts were advised, not only on a central level, but between fraternal voivodships and organizations in Poland and Hungary.

The need to widen cultural cooperation, and for joint scientific and research work was also highlighted. A broad review of the present international situation was made, including tensions caused by the imperialist policy of the United States and some NATO states aimed at confrontation and an arms race. It was indicated that the Soviet proposal and the Warsaw Pact Prague declaration are important for peace. The need for consultation between the two countries' foreign ministries and the importance of coordinated action by the CEMA states was agreed.

Puja Hosts Dinner

LD221405 Budapest MTI in English 1015 GMT 22 Feb 83

[Text] Budapest, February 21 (MTI) -- Hungarian Foreign Minister Frigyes Puja gave a dinner in honour of Polish Foreign Minister Stefan Olszowski in Budapest Monday evening. Stefan Olszowski arrived in Budapest Monday on the invitation of Frigyes Puja.

APRO ADDRESSES TREATY ANNIVERSARY MEETING

LD182127 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1730 GMT 18 Feb 83

[Text] On the 35th anniversary of the signing of the Hungarian-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance a rally was held in Budapest at the Gorkiy Cultural Center of the Danuvia works in Budapest. Those present at the rally included Miklos Ovari, member of the Politburo and secretary of the MSZMP Central Committee; Deputy Premier Jozsef Marjai; Frigyes Puja, minister of foreign affairs; Nikolay Danilin, deputy chairman of the Soviet-Hungarian Friendship Society; and Vladimir Bazovskiy, Soviet ambassador. Janos Fodor reports:

[Fodor] The festive speech was given by Antal Apro, member of the party Politburo and chairman of the Hungarian-Soviet Friendship Society.

[Begin Apro recording] In February 1948 the contemporary Hungarian press correctly evaluated the treaty, giving it a warm welcome. Let me quote: The free peoples of Europe no longer look upon us as Hitler's last ally. Rather they perceive us as an equal-ranking democracy. Our old ruling classes lost the war, but the Hungarian people have won the peace.

Dear comrades, the promising development at the beginning of the 1950's was disturbed by the mistakes committed by the Hungarian party and state leadership in political life and in the sphere of economic construction. This provided an opportunity for our external and internal enemies to launch an attack against the power of the people and against the Soviet Union. These difficult times put to the test the friendship between the Hungarian and Soviet peoples. To the good fortune of our people, Hungarian-Soviet friendship proved stronger than the counterrevolutionary endeavors. Our interstate relations have further developed since, in profound respect for each other's interests and national characteristics. [end recording]

[Fodor] The friendship treaty, signed in 1948, was extended for a further 20 years in September 1967. Of course, the document took into consideration the achievements of cooperation over 2 decades. By now it is almost a cliche to say that Hungarian-Soviet relations extend to almost every sphere of life and that economic cooperation has crucial significance for us. Antal Apro said the following on this topic:

[Begin Apro recording] At the present almost one-third of the total foreign trade turnover of our country is provided by Hungarian-Soviet trade. It is well known that in the last 35 years the Soviet Union has provided indispensible help for the supply of energy and raw materials for our economy. Direct production cooperation and close, bilateral integration are playing an ever greater role in our economic relations. Because of the extremely unfavorable changes in the world economy at the present, significance of our cooperation has further intensified. [end recording]

[Fodor] Antal Apro went on to speak about our scientific and cultural cooperation and the work of the Hungarian-Soviet Friendship Society. He concluded his speech as follows:

[Begin Apro recording] The last 35 years demonstrate that the Hungarian-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance, signed 35 years ago, has stood the test of time. The further development of Hungarian-Soviet relations and the favorable possibilities provided by the treaty are in accord with the national interests of the Hungarian people. The Hungarian-Soviet friendship treaty, signed 35 years ago, is the first significant interstate agreement in the modern history of our country, which secures the Hungarian people's right to independence, national existence, and progress. [end recording]

[Fodor] Following Antal Apro's speech Vladimir Nikolayevich Bazovskiy, Soviet ambassador to Hungary, said that the views of the CPSU and the MSZMP completely coincide on important issues. The meeting between Janos Kadar and Yuriy Andropov in December 1982 provided an example of this.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER RETURNS FROM BULGARIA

LD200040 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1400 GMT 18 Feb 83

[Text] Istvan Horvath, minister of internal affairs, has discussed in Sofia the opportunities for further developing Hungarian-Bulgarian cooperation in home affairs. He was received by Milko Balev, member of the Politburo of the BCP and secretary of the Central Committee. The delegation led by Istvan Horvath has arrived home from Bulgaria.

HAVASI ARRIVES IN ALGIERS 21 FEBRUARY FOR TALKS

LD220725 Budapest MTI in English 1722 GMT 21 Feb 83

[Excerpt] Algiers, February 21 (MTI) -- Ferenc Havasi, member of the HSWP Political Committee and secretary of the Central Committee, arrived in Algiers Monday on the invitation of the Central Committee of the National Liberation Front (FLN).

ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI COMMENTS ON ADELMAN NOMINATION

LD192129 Warsaw PAP in English 1715 GMT 19 Feb 83

[Text] Warsaw 19 Feb -- ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI today said the nomination of Kenneth Adelman as the new head of the U.S. agency for control of armaments and disarmament "cannot but be interpreted as a proof of that President Reagan -- like Adelman -- holds the view that negotiations on the control of armaments and disarmament should be conducted only to mislead his own nation and in fact does not care for the outcome of the talks, that is for agreement with the Soviet Union on at least curbing the arms race." The paper branded Kenneth Adelman "avowed enemy to agreement or negotiations on armaments control alone" and "an absurd candidature" for head of the agency.

"Still more doubts as to the peaceful intentions on the part of the White House are raised by the programme on democracy and international relations," ZOLNIERZ said. The programme in question provides for U.S. Administration's interference in other countries' affairs, with special reference to the developing nations, on a scale greater than before, the paper remarked. It described the target of the above move as "the intention to subordinate those countries to the Washington policy." "Never before has the above practice been proclaimed as ostentatiously as nearly an official state doctrine" the paper added.

"The policy pursued by President Ronald Reagan has already occasioned considerable exacerbation of the international climate," the paper said. "Continuation of that policy threatens peace on world scale, and it poses a threat of incalculable consequences. Those who put that policy into practice take upon themselves the immense burden of responsibility for the danger of a catastrophe to imperil the entire world," ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI warned.

SOLIDARITY'S SWITON SUMMONED TO COURT, DISAPPEARS

NC222138 Paris AFP in English 2132 GMT 22 Feb 83

[Text] Warsaw, Feb 22 (AFP) -- Trade unionist Kazimerz Switon, whose ideas led to the foundation of the Solidarity union federation, was today summoned to appear before a court at Katowice, according to sources at his home in the city.

Mr Switon, who was not present when the summons was delivered, later "disappeared," the sources said. He was due, along with Solidarity leader Lech Walesa, to attend a mass in Katowice tomorrow to commemorate the fifth anniversary of the foundation in the city of the committee to establish free trade unions in Poland. The mass, due to take place at the Sacred Heart Church in Katowice, was also to be held to commemorate Solidarity members who died, who were arrested or who were sentenced during the state of siege. Mr Switon's wife refused to accept the summons when it was delivered, the sources said, and he "disappeared" so as to be able to attend tomorrow's mass, they added. No details of the summons were available.

Mr Walesa said by telephone from Gdansk that he may not be able to attend the mass because his car had broken down and that there may be no flight to Katowice from Gdansk tomorrow -- the two cities are 523 km (310 miles) apart. It was later learned that the Gdansk-Katowice flight tomorrow may have been cancelled.

FURTHER ON OFFICIAL VISIT OF KING HUSAYN

Ceausescu Toast at Banquet

AU211723 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian 18 Feb 83 pp 1, 3

[Toast by President Nicolae Ceausescu at the 17 February official Bucharest dinner for King Husayn of Jordan]

[Text] Your Majesty and dear friend, esteemed Jordanian guests, friends and comrades,

I want to once again express our pleasure with your visit to Romania and to convey to you, Your Majesty, and to your aides, cordial and friendly greetings, and to welcome you to Romanian soil.

We view this latest visit as an expression of the good relations between Romania and Jordan and of our countries' desire to further expand their friendly cooperation and collaboration.

We are pleased to note that our previous meetings in Bucharest and Amman, our talks, the agreements we reached and the documents we signed have laid the foundations for sound relations that are fruitfully developing in the spirit of and on the basis of full equality of rights and mutual esteem and respect. I am convinced that during this visit, too, we will conclude additional agreements concerning both the development of our bilateral relations and our cooperation in the international arena.

Your visit is taking place at a time when international events are becoming increasingly complex.

The world is going through profound revolutionary national and social changes and transformations; the balance of forces among various states and groups of states continues to change. The international economic crisis is deepening, and the contradictions between rich and poor countries are growing and are becoming the most important issue of the contemporary era. The policy of force and domination and of interference in the affairs of other states is still manifest; there are still areas plagued by war and fighting claiming many human lives. The arms race is intensifying and that is considerably aggravating the international situation and increasing the danger of military conflict and even of nuclear world war.

In view of those realities, we believe that it is now more necessary than ever to unite and to promote close cooperation among all the peoples, in order to halt the dangerous course of events toward confrontation and war, and in order to resume and assert the policy of detente, security and peace and to solve interstate conflicts and problems only through peaceful negotiations.

The events of the past few months have once again forcefully demonstrated that there is only one way to establish peace in the Middle East, and that is through negotiations. We believe that Israel should withdraw its troops from Lebanon as soon as possible, and that the integrity and sovereignty of that state should be respected. At the same time, negotiations should begin within the framework of an international conference, with the participation of all interested states and of the PLO, to devise a comprehensive solution for the Middle East conflict, based on the withdrawal of the Israeli troops from the Arab territories occupied in 1967, on recognition of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination -- including their right to have their own independent state -- and on guaranteed security and independence for all the states in that area. The Palestinian people must be allowed to organize their life as they want it!

There is room enough in the Middle East for both an independent Palestinian state and for the State of Israel, and this reality must be accepted, and all the countries in that area must coexist peacefully.

As a European state, Romania gives special attention to security and cooperation on our continent and endeavors to contribute to the success of the Madrid meeting, to the organization of a conference devoted to confidence-building and disarmament in Europe, and to followups to the Helsinki meeting.

We believe that everything possible should be done to halt the deployment of medium-range missiles and to forge a Europe free of all nuclear missiles or other weapons, a united Europe based on respect for the independence and social system of each state.

We believe that the major current international problem is the struggle to halt the arms race, the struggle for disarmament, primarily nuclear disarmament. The nations of the world are increasingly demanding that an end be put to the policy of armaments, and that specific disarmament measures be taken under proper international control.

The realities of the contemporary world show that eliminating underdevelopment and establishing a new world economic order constitute a must for overcoming the economic crisis and achieving international economic and political stability.

For the complex problems of the contemporary world to be solved, all countries, regardless of size or social system, especially the small and average-sized countries, the developing and nonaligned countries must actively participate in international events, since they are directly interested in a policy of cooperation, independence, and peace.

I want to stress with satisfaction the good cooperation between Romania and Jordan in the international arena, within the United Nations and other international bodies, the Group of 77 and the Nonaligned Movement, and I am confident that this cooperation will further expand in the future.

Convinced that your visit to Romania will make a fresh important contribution to strengthening Romanian-Jordanian cooperation at both bilateral and international level, I want to wish the friendly Jordanian people ever greater successes in their independent socioeconomic development and in fulfilling their aspirations for progress, prosperity and peace.

-- May the friendship and cooperation between our countries and peoples continuously develop!
-- To the health of your majesty!
-- To the health of all our Jordanian guests!
-- To peace and cooperation in the world!
-- To the health of all of you! (applause)

King Husayn's Banquet Speech

JN172205 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 17 Feb 83

[Excerpt] Your Excellency, great friend Nicolae Ceausescu. I and the members of the Jordanian delegation are pleased to express to you our profound thanks and great appreciation for the warm feelings and sincere reception which have been accorded to us since our arrival in your dear country, an expression of the existing strong friendship and vast scope of comprehensive cooperation between the Jordanian and Romanian peoples and the common objectives and results which we are seeking to achieve. We would like to affirm on this happy occasion you are affording us that the course of friendship and cooperation which we have been pursuing together right from the beginning reflects our firm resolve to serve our countries and desire to adhere to everything that guarantees the well-being of our peoples and all mankind.

Great friend, we are visiting you at a time when Lebanon, a peaceful Arab country, is facing continued Israeli aggression on its territory. Its capital and many of its towns and villages, as well as large areas of its soil, are still groaning under the yoke of occupation. The Lebanese people are still suffering greatly from the harsh aggression.

At the same time the Palestinian Arab people in the occupied areas, in Arab Jerusalem, the West Bank and Gaza, are also exposed to the harshest forms of inhuman treatment at the hands of the Israeli occupation authorities. The settlement activity is increasing and expanding; the confiscation of Arab lands has not stopped; the mass punishment of the population and university students and professors has reached evil peaks without reason; and the policy of Judaization and the changing of the demography in the occupied territory has thrown every right and law overboard. The defenseless Palestinian people remain steadfast, resisting all the manifestations of occupation and aggression with courage and faith.

Dear friend, this is part of what is taking place in the occupied Palestinian Arab territory and Lebanon. As you know, the Arabs are seekers of justice and security and believe in peace for themselves and others. They adopted a unanimous stand at the Fes summit, declared their peace plan, and proceeded toward a comprehensive peace based on right, justice, and international legality which provides for the removal of the Israeli occupation from all the Arab territories which were occupied in 1967, headed by Arab Jerusalem, and for the Palestinian people's exercise of their legitimate rights on their national soil.

Great friend, the sufferings, disturbances, and instability which all are witnessing in the Middle East undoubtedly confirm that the Palestine question will remain the crux of the conflict in this sensitive region, which is vital to world security, well-being and prosperity. A just and comprehensive solution to this question is the only guarantee for a real end to the causes of the conflict.

Great friend, the Middle East region, which is facing challenges and continued aggression, is in great need today, more than at any time before, for the concerted efforts of all devout leaders and peace-loving peoples. Perhaps the forthcoming nonaligned summit conference in New Delhi will afford a real opportunity for the peace which we all cherish to test the Nonaligned Movement's willpower, real cooperation, and ability to assert its role in the creation of peace based on right, justice, equality, and an end to injustice and aggression in our region and everywhere in the world. We would like to stress our firm resolve to adhere to the principles of this movement as the hope of all peoples which are gathered under its canopy in an atmosphere of cooperation, freedom, and absence of international hegemony.

Finally, I call upon you all, friends, to stand up and join me in a toast in honor of my great friend, President Ceausescu, and the friendly Romanian people. Long live Jordanian-Romanian friendship on the path of cooperation and common welfare.

COOPERATION PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH BULGARIA

AU222051 Sofia BTA in English 1833 GMT 22 Feb 83

[Text] Bucharest, Feb 22 (BTA corr) -- A Bulgarian delegation paid a three-day visit here, led by Mr Georgi Pankov, minister of the chemical industry. During its talks with Mr Ion M. Nicolae, deputy first minister of the Romanian Government, and with Mr Gheorghe Caranfil, minister of the chemical industry, the state of and prospects to Bulgaro-Romanian cooperation were discussed. On the basis of the agreements reached at a top level, the possibilities for extending the joint initiative in the chemical industry were reviewed, for a fuller utilization of the two countries' economic potential. Measures were outlined for a further development of the cooperation in the in-depth oil processing, in the manufacture of manmade fibres, plastics, pesticides, etc. Bulgaria and Romania will cooperate ever more actively in the pharmaceutic industry, cosmetics, and the small-tonnage chemistry. Ministers Georgi Pankov and Gheorghe Caranfil signed a protocol on extending the cooperation in the chemical industry till the end of the current five-year period.

PEOPLE'S COUNCILS CONFERENCE HELD IN BUCHAREST

Opening Meeting 17 February

AU171025 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 0900 GMT 17 Feb 83

[Summary] "The countrywide conference of chairmen of people's councils opened this morning in Bucharest in the presence of Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, RCP secretary general and president of the Socialist Republic of Romania." The conference was opened by Gheorghe Oprea, member of the RCP Political Executive Committee and first deputy premier of the government, after which the conference unanimously elected its working bodies and adopted its agenda.

"Emil Bobu, member of the Political Executive Committee and secretary of the party Central Committee, then read a report on the implementation by the people's councils of the Uniform National Plan for Romania's Regional Development in the 1981-85 period and the measures to be taken to fully attain all plan tasks." The report deals in detail with various tasks devolving on the people's councils in economy, education, ideology and other fields and draws a balance sheet of achievements attained by the people's councils in the period since the last conference.

The conference proceedings continue.

Activities 18 February

AU181947 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1855 GMT 18 Feb 83

[Text] Bucharest AGERPRES 18/2/1983 -- The works of the all-country conference of the chairmen of people's councils which started on February 17 in Bucharest continued on February 18 in plenum, then in 12 working sections, grouped by counties.

The debates focused on the eight items written down in the agenda of the conference. Approached were priority aspects of the activity carried on by the local bodies of the state power and administration for the fulfilment of the single national plan of economic and social development of Romania by territorial units over 1981-1985.

The participants analyzed how the people's councils worked for the fulfillment of the special programmes with an economic and social character endorsed by the National Conference of the RCP in December 1982, the programme of territorial self-management and self-supply and the improvement of services for the population and the programmes of urban and local development.

The proceedings of the conference will end on February 19.

Ceausescu Speech at Concluding Session

AU191500 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 0729 GMT 19 Feb 83

[Speech by RCP Secretary General Nicolae Ceausescu at the 19 February closing session of the countrywide conference of chairmen of people's councils -- live]

[Text] Esteemed comrades, the countrywide conference of chairmen of communal, town and municipal people's councils and of secretaries for propaganda and culture constitutes a forceful assertion of regional self-management and of workers revolutionary democracy; it demonstrates the strength and superiority of the socialist system. [applause]

The debates that have taken place in the democratic forum of local bodies have summed up the activities of the people's councils in the past 3 years, as democratic bodies of regional economic and social self-management.

They have also established tasks for the future designed to implement the decisions of the 12th congress and of the national conference, and the party program on building the comprehensively developed socialist society and Romania's advance toward communism. [applause]

It can be stated that the conference proceeded in a spirit of great responsibility and combativeness both in plenum and in commissions or groups of counties. It examined in a critical and self-critical spirit the activities of the people's councils to date and the manner in which they worked to fulfill their tasks and to organize and manage all the fatherland's localities. The debates brought to the fore the great achievements attained in all the localities and throughout the countries. Many proposals were advanced with a view to improving and perfecting the activities of the people's councils and to promote the socioeconomic development of all localities. They must all be thoroughly examined by the people's councils' committees and by the government, and due measures must be taken to implement the proposals that are found to be constructive for the entire country. Similarly, the problems raised here by several comrades and concerning various localities or areas must also be solved. In any case, I believe that the central bodies and the government must deal with all the problems and must provide solutions, so that the people's councils can better fulfill their role in all the areas of activity. [applause]

The comrades stressed with justified pride the results obtained by the people's councils in pooling together the efforts of the masses and of all the citizens, regardless of nationality, in all the localities to promote socioeconomic development and to raise the material and cultural living standard. Year after year, the communes and towns of our fatherland developed greatly from an economic and social viewpoint thus ensuring increasingly better working and living conditions for all the working people, regardless of nationality. The noteworthy achievements attained in developing the production forces and the policy of distributing industry among all the counties, the marked development and modernization of agriculture, and the development of cottage industries and services created the necessary conditions for securing a new and prosperous life in all the counties and areas of our fatherland.

Education, science and culture -- factors of a decisive importance for building socialism and communism in our country -- also developed greatly. [applause]

Very important was the regional organization and systematization of towns and villages, which gave our socialist fatherland a new feature. Since this year we mark 15 years since that reorganization. We should review it, even if only briefly, to see whether that reorganization was beneficial and whether it contributed to the development of all our country's areas and regions.

During the years of socialist construction industrial production increased 50 times, agricultural production 3.5 times, and the national income about 15 times. The marked increases in the national product and in the national income provided the necessary means for developing the national economy at a fast pace, and for increasing the real incomes of the working people in town and villages 6.4 times. The rapid development of the production forces and the resolute implementation of the policy of distributing industry and other economic branches among the entire territory permitted the establishment of great industrial sites and centers in all the counties.

The new administrative reorganization and division of 1968 was very important in this respect. That was when the counties were established. That reorganization created conditions for strengthening the direct links between central bodies and regional administrative units.

As a result of the administrative-territorial reorganization and of subsequent measures, we now have 41 counties. The 15 years since the new administrative-territorial reorganization have seen a great development in the counties. Thus, in 1968 we had 22 counties whose production totaled up to 5 billion lei; in 1982 there is not one such county. In 1968 we had 15 counties whose production totaled between 5 and 10 billion lei; we now have 10 such counties. In 1968 we had one county with a production of 10-15 billion lei; we now have 6 such counties. In 1968 we had 2 counties with a production of 15-20 billion lei; now we have 6. In 1968 one county produced over 20 billion lei; now 19 counties do.

More than 6,100 new industrial capacities were built in those years, while the existing ones were greatly expanded. Measures were taken to better organize the communes by reducing their number from 4,259 to 2,705. Strong administrative socioeconomic units were thus created. The number of towns and municipalities increased from 184 to 236. We now have 181 towns and 56 municipalities. Joint agroindustrial councils were established as agricultural managerial units and as centers of socioeconomic development. Thus, the 556 new centers of joint agroindustrial centers are gradually becoming agroindustrial towns or industrial-agrarian towns with a harmonious development in all areas.

As a result of the great development of the production forces, of industry and of social activities, the urban population increased from 36 percent in 1968 to over 48 percent in 1982, while the rural population dropped from close to 64 percent to over 51 percent during the same period. Our intensive socioeconomic development provided the necessary conditions for achieving a large volume of social projects. Over 2.3 million housing units were built; 49,000 beds were added to hospitals; over 36,000 classrooms were added; 220,000 kindergarten and about 116,000 new nursery openings were created; as were 540,000 cultural club places, 40 cultural establishments, new clubs and other social-cultural institutions. Our towns and communes have become more prosperous and capable of providing increasingly better working and living conditions for all the citizens of the fatherland.

Any person of good faith cannot but note the great changes achieved within a very short historical period and the great progress made in socioeconomic development and in developing all our localities on a new basis into localities worthy of the era of socialism and of the advance toward communism. [applause, cheers]

We have become accustomed to the commissioning of new enterprises, new industrial and agricultural units, and new social-cultural establishments. However, if we consider our past and what is happening in many other states of the world, we can assert with justified pride that only socialism can permit such a development of the economy and of the other sectors of activity and such improvements in the people's well-being. [applause, cheers, chants of "Ceausescu and the people"]

Life and realities forcefully demonstrate the correctness of the territorial reorganization and the establishment of the counties, which ensured a harmonious development of the entire country and of all areas, and created equal working and living conditions for all the working people, regardless of nationality. It constituted an important factor for asserting the socialist principles of social equity and justice. During that period the living conditions of the peasantry became very much like those of the workers class. The alliance between workers and peasants -- the monolithic basis of our socialist system and the guarantee for our resolute advance toward the victory of communism in Romania -- was greatly strengthened and cemented. [applause]

Life and facts forcefully attest the creative potential of our people, who have eliminated exploitation and oppression once and for all and have become full masters of their fate and conscious builders of their free and happy present and future. [applause]

All the great achievements of the socialist period forcefully demonstrate the correctness of the policies of our Communist Party, which is creatively applying general truths and the principles of scientific socialism to the realities prevailing in our country, thus honorably fulfilling its role as the leading political force of all the people along the path of building the comprehensively developed socialist society and of the advance toward communism. [applause]

Our noteworthy achievements in socioeconomic development and in raising the people's material and cultural well-being are the result of the devoted work of the workers class -- the leading class in our socialist society -- of the peasantry, intelligentsia, and other social categories, of all the working people, regardless of nationality, of all our people, who, closely united under the leadership of our Communist Party, are unswervingly implementing our domestic and foreign policies, thus continuously raising the fatherland to ever higher peaks of progress and civilization. [applause]

We can assert with justified pride that only socialism could have unleashed the enormous creative energies of the people and could have turned our country, within a short historical period, into a country with a developed and modern industry, with a modern agriculture in full progress, and with a developed educational system, science, and culture; only socialism could have increased to such an extent the living standard of all our people.

At the national party conference of December 1982 we examined in detail the current stage of socialist construction in Romania, and adopted a number of programs and measures designed to unflaggingly implement the 12th party congress decisions and the party program.

As is well known, in the first 2 years of the 1981-85 5-year plan, despite the difficult conditions caused by the international economic crisis and despite certain shortcomings in our own activities, Romania's economy continued to develop, albeit more slowly. We continued to advance despite those difficult conditions, and succeeded in creating conditions for overcoming the problems created by the international economic crisis and by certain shortcomings and contradictions in our society, and ensured the unswerving fulfillment of the 5-year plan. [applause]

For the results obtained by the working people in all the sectors of activity, especially in 1982, from the dais of the conference of people's councils I want to convey to the workers class, peasantry, intelligentsia, and all working people, regardless of nationality, to all our people warm congratulations and wishes for ever new successes. [applause, chants]

The party bodies and organizations and the communal, town, and municipal councils made important contributions to all those achievements. That is why I want to convey especially warm congratulations to all local party-state bodies for their work and for the results obtained by the working people in all the counties and localities, and I want to wish them ever greater success in the organization and carrying out of all future activities. [applause, cheers]

Esteemed comrades, we have every right to look back with satisfaction and pride on everything we have achieved so far in every area. However, as revolutionaries and Communists we must frankly admit that there have also been shortcomings and mistakes in our work. I spoke about that at the national conference, and we established measures to overcome them.

I now want to mention the fact that the people's councils have also shown serious shortcomings in their activities, which still persist. Not every local state body is optimally fulfilling its responsible tasks in promoting the socioeconomic development of each locality and in implementing self-management, self-supply and self-administration, in properly managing each town and village, so as to ensure increasingly better working and living conditions for all the citizens.

Serious shortcomings have been noted in the area of territorial organization and systematization. In many localities construction still proceeds anarchically; the development plans established are not implemented, and that will affect the entire development of our localities for a long time to come. Shortcomings also exist in political-ideological and cultural-artistic mass activities and in the work designed to raise the revolutionary and patriotic consciousness of the people and to shape a new man, conscious builder of socialism and communism. I will not now dwell on the shortcomings and failings still affecting the work of people's councils. However, each people's councils must responsibly and severely examine its own activities in a critical and self-critical spirit, and must establish measures to eliminate them. We must do everything possible to enhance the role of people's councils in all socioeconomic and political-educational activities, in uniting the efforts of all the citizens of each locality to rapidly eliminate shortcomings and to improve work in all areas.

I believe that we have the potential for radically improving the work of all people's councils within a very short period of time, so that they will better fulfill their greatly responsible role in our socialist society. [applause]

Esteemed comrades, the party-state bodies and all socioeconomic units, including the people's councils, must focus their work on the decisions of the party national conference, on implementing the programs established to more intensively develop all activities, on implementing the 1983 plan provisions and the objectives of the seventh 5-year plan. The national conference stressed the need for measures to attain the basic objective of the 12th congress: to propel Romania to a new stage of development. For that we must work with all our forces to achieve a new quality of life and work in all areas, to switch over from extensive to intensive industrial development. For that purpose, we must endeavor to more markedly improve quality and to raise the technical level of our products, and to better utilize raw materials. Resolute measures are particularly needed to enhance labor productivity in keeping with our technical-material facilities and with the high qualifications of our personnel.

In implementing the 12th congress decisions and those of the national conference we must concentrate our forces on more markedly developing our energy and raw materials resources, with a view to becoming self-reliant as soon as possible, and increasing domestic supplies of raw materials. Resolute steps must be taken to cut down energy and raw material expenditures, and to recover, recondition, and reutilize materials, parts, and subassemblies. At the same time, we must give greater attention to new sources of energy available in one form or another in any part of the country. In all those areas the people's councils have special tasks to fulfill. Each one of them must work out a program on developing local sources of energy -- microcentrals, thermal waters, biogas, biomass, solar energy -- and on reducing consumption and recovering certain energy resources.

The people's councils in all localities should give priority to developing the material base, by utilizing all useful substances. An important role devolves on people's councils in recovering and reusing materials and various parts and subassemblies. The question of energy and raw materials must be a main concern of all party-state bodies, all economic bodies, and each citizen of our fatherland.

The people's councils should pay particular attention to powerfully developing small-scale industry, handicraft, and services by better utilizing local raw materials, in order to fully meet requirements of all citizens of the fatherland.

The 12th congress and the national conference stressed the need to powerfully develop industry and carry out the new agrarian revolution. We must resolutely work to implement the programs for developing all agricultural branches by paying particular attention to the activity of state agricultural enterprises and agricultural production cooperatives, which play the decisive role in implementing the 5-year plan provisions concerning the powerful increase in vegetable and animal agricultural production. At the same time, resolute measures should be taken [Ceausescu stammers] and particular attention should be paid to private farms, which play an important part in turning out many agricultural products, especially in the livestock, fruit-growing, and vegetable sectors. Particular attention should be paid to fulfilling plan provisions concerning animal growing and livestock production.

The present conference discussed this issue in detail. The livestock census revealed a number of shortcomings. Resolute measures must be taken to fully attain plan provisions on increasing the number of livestock, particularly cattle, sheep, and all other breeds. We must take all necessary measures beginning with the current year to attain the number of livestock envisaged by plan.

I believe I do not have to dwell now on the importance of powerfully developing the livestock sector and attaining the envisaged production of meat, milk, wool, and other animal products for ensuring proper supplies to the people, for implementing the self-supply program and for ensuring the country's overall development. [applause]

The people's councils must play an active role in properly organizing and developing agricultural production. The self-supply program aims at powerfully increasing production in each agricultural unit and private farm. Many examples of very good agricultural results were presented at this conference. However, it is necessary to generalize these examples in the entire activity in each locality, county, and throughout the country. We have everything necessary to commendably fulfill provisions of the self-supply program, by fully attaining the established production.

Each private farm and each inhabitant in villages or towns who owns land, in any form, must cultivate his plot no matter how small and should strive to obtain the maximum production from his plot. The conference also discussed in detail various draft programs concerning cultivation of plots of land and development of each private farm. We must do everything possible this year to score results that are at least up to plan provisions.

Within the division of labor in our socialist society, the peasantry must ensure the powerful development of agricultural production, miners must ensure coal and minerals, oil workers must increase the oil production, metallurgical and chemical workers must increase the production of metal and chemical items, machine-builders must turn out more machines and equipment of high technical level; and so forth. Within the framework of this social division of labor each category of working people must do its best to commendably fulfill the highly responsible tasks incumbent upon them. Everybody must properly understand that the implementation of the national conference decisions and programs is directly connected with fulfilling plan tasks in all fields, raising the qualitative level of the entire activity, and powerfully increasing economic efficiency. [applause]

In this respect, the peasantry has the highly responsible mission to produce and ensure the necessary agricultural and food products for proper supplies to all the people and to increase the contribution of agriculture to the country's overall development. The Peasants-Workers Alliance, which is the social and political base of our socialist system, must primarily assert itself in production, in the exchanges of products between towns and villages and in the common work to harmoniously develop our socialist society. [applause]

A particularly important role in implementing the self-management and self-supply program devolves upon the state stock of agricultural and food products. Everybody should understand that fulfilling contracts and delivering contracted agricultural and animal products to economic and trade organizations is a vital prerequisite for implementing the self-management and self-supply program.

No locality or unit may consume more than is envisaged in the self-supply program or than the production actually attained. One should ensure unconditional deliveries of contracted products to the state stocks; one should also ensure the necessary consumption level in accordance with the production attained. If supplementary production is attained in excess of plan provisions, only then can one distribute more for one's own consumption, in accordance with law provisions.

In this respect, particular responsibility devolves upon people's councils. They must take firm and exacting action to attain the envisaged production and implement the self-supply program, so as to put an end to the trend to self-consumption. They must ensure strict observance of plan and law provisions concerning the agricultural activity and the self-management and self-supply programs. We have everything necessary to commendably fulfill the agricultural development and self-supply programs and I express the conviction that all people's councils will responsibly work to fulfill highly responsible tasks incumbent upon them in this field, by making an ever greater contribution to the overall development of our socialist fatherland and to raising the people's overall well-being. [applause]

Esteemed comrades, we should pay greater attention to regional planning and organization. In accordance with the established planning programs, we must restrict the perimeter of building areas so as to group dwellings and socioeconomic, agricultural, industrial and other constructions in a more compact manner. These constructions should use as little land as possible, since this land can be used for other purposes. Everybody must realize that the agricultural land available to our country must be better administered; we must limit the areas for construction and roads and expand the areas for agricultural activities. The land is the main, decisive element of agricultural production. Nothing can be cultivated unless you have the necessary land for it. Therefore, everybody should realize that the land is the national wealth of all the people and that the arable agricultural area must be defended, maintained, and developed.

Resolute measures should be taken to increase land fertility, expand agricultural lands, combat soil erosion, and carry out land improvement and irrigation operations. The people's councils have the important task of ensuring the implementation of law provisions on locality planning programs and on defending and expanding agricultural areas in all localities. We must resolutely proceed to build dwellings and other social, cultural, and industrial units on ever smaller areas, by developing multistoried constructions.

As is known, we decided that about 200 square meters should be allocated for a peasant's household. If one were to build houses with two or three stories, this would allow savings of some 50-60 square meters per each household, land that could be used for agriculture. Let me give you an example: If three peasant households unite and build a house with three stories, each household having some 80-90 square meters, then 50-60 square meters could be saved per household. On this area, one could attain a production of 400-500 kg tomatoes or 120-250 kg onions or other items. This production could fully meet the respective requirements of a household with 3-4 members. That is why, comrades, we should realize that -- in the case of Romania, where the arable area per inhabitant amounts to only 0.45 hectares -- everything must be done to reduce the building areas in order to cultivate each square meter of land. This is a national prerequisite for ensuring proper conditions for agricultural development and good supplies to the people. [applause]

The present conference discussed in detail how a household should organize its activity and what is required for each peasant or citizen owning a plot of land to cultivate it so as to meet his own requirements and sell the surplus through the trade network or directly in open markets. We must unflinchingly implement the national conference orientations concerning the powerful increase in the number of livestock in private households. Each peasant household must raise a cow, sheep, or goats, pigs and poultry so as to fully meet its own requirements of animal products and even sell the surplus to other people.

Generally speaking, we should do everything possible to powerfully increase agricultural production, both vegetable and animal, both in state and cooperative socialist units and in private [particular] or personal [personal] households. Let us ensure a surplus of agricultural and food products which can fully meet consumption requirements and other needs of the national economy. On this basis, the incomes of peasantry and working people in agriculture can increase.

As I already said at the national conference, we should not be afraid that some peasants will get rich. We want to attain a socialism or abundance and well-being for each citizen of our fatherland. Through his work and the work of his family, each citizen in villages or towns can have unlimited income. We are eliminating man's exploitation by man. In our socialist society it is impossible for a person to live and make his income at somebody else's expense. But any citizen can raise his income through work for himself and society. In the socialist society, nobody can or may live without work. We must firmly apply the socialist principle: no work without bread and no bread without work.

We must firmly apply the socialist principle concerning incomes, according to which everybody must do useful work and the incomes are directly connected with the work done and its results. As I stressed at the national conference, our socialist society ensures the right to work and creates necessary conditions for everybody to have a sure place of work, in accordance with his training and the requirements of social development. The incomes of working people can and must continuously grow through honest and dignified work. What is wrong and inequitable is that somebody should have a guaranteed income without doing useful work. We firmly apply the principle of equal remuneration for equal work and we create conditions to ensure guaranteed incomes for all working people, in accordance with the work done.

In accordance with the increase in production, labor productivity and economic efficiency and profitability, the incomes of working people will also increase. In this spirit we should act to organize agricultural activities and increase the incomes of peasantry and working people in this important social field. [applause]

I discussed in detail the issues of agriculture, of organizing activities in all localities and of private and personal households in view of the fact that the people's councils play a very important part in implementing plan provisions in these sectors. I would like to express the conviction that all those present here, party secretaries, mayors, deputy secretaries, and other party-state cadres in all counties will understand that, on returning home, they must resolutely proceed to adopt concrete measures and programs for each commune, locality, and agricultural unit, in the spirit of the national conference and of what I have previously said. We must ensure that each people's councils becomes a good organizer and leader of the entire agricultural activity in each locality. [applause]

Esteemed comrades, in applying the self-management principle, we must take responsible action to implement the self-administration principle, proceeding from the need for each commune, town, and municipality to ensure its own self-financing. As a matter of fact, we have an important number of communes, some 1,064, which manage to attain the necessary incomes for all their activities.

In this respect, one should proceed from the need for each commune to independently finance the maintenance of schools, health care units, cultural clubs, hostels, and other social activities; each commune must ensure the maintenance and development of streets, roads, and water facilities -- must ensure the embellishment of the locality and must properly administer its affairs.

In accordance with law provisions, all people's councils are directly responsible for properly administering the entire activity in the respective locality. All citizens are dutybound to participate in the administrative activity and in the maintenance of towns and villages. The participation of each citizen in self-management, self-supply, and self-administration is a decisive element of fulfilling the highly responsible role devolving upon people's councils and developing the socialist workers democracy.

Each locality should have its own income and expenditure budgets and should ensure the necessary means for its socioeconomic development. One cannot talk about self-management if one expects that various activities should be financed from the state budget. On the contrary, we must shortly reach the stage when each locality participates in financing more general activities at the level of counties or nationwide. [applause]

The implementation of self-management, self-supply and self-administration measures is a basic prerequisite for powerfully developing workers democracy and ensuring the participation of the broad masses and all working people, regardless of nationality, in running all sectors of activity. I would like to draw attention to the fact that -- aside from the socioeconomic importance of strengthening the spirit of self-management and self-administration -- the attainment of a certain independence of each locality from the viewpoint of self-supply and self-administration is also important for strengthening the fatherland's defense capacity, implementing the principles of our military policy, and ensuring all the people's participation in the fatherland's defense in case of an imperialist aggression.

Of course we do everything to ensure peace; however, we must never forget that until an end is put to the arms race and the imperialist policy of force and diktat, the danger of war still exists. Therefore, we are responsible and must do our best to continuously strengthen the fatherland's defense capability. In this respect, the self-management, self-supply, and self-administration of each locality is a very important element of the struggle to strengthen the fatherland's defense capacity. [applause, cheers, chants]

Esteemed comrades, within the framework of our revolutionary workers democracy, the people's councils -- in their capacity as the most democratic bodies of the local state power -- play a very important role. The organization and composition of people's councils powerfully illustrate their broad representative and democratic nature, as an important part and parcel of our revolutionary workers democracy.

In 1982, 62,170 deputies were elected to town and municipal people's councils. The social, national, sex, and age composition of these deputies is the following: Almost 27 percent workers, over 53 percent peasants, and 16.5 percent intellectuals; of these, about 90 percent are Romanians, 7.5 percent Hungarians, 1.4 percent Germans, and 0.9 percent other nationalities; over 38 percent of deputies are women -- this is a good share, comrades, but not enough, since women should participate in accordance with their share in our society and with the principle of equal rights in all fields of activity. [applause] Likewise, deputies are also appropriately represented from the viewpoint of age -- thus, almost 29 percent of deputies are under 35, over 49 percent are between 35-50 years of age, and 22 percent over 50.

Examining the composition and structure of people's councils, we can state that deputies to the people's councils are an expression of the current social structure and composition of our society; they reflect the broad democratism of our system, the participation of the broad masses in running all sectors of activity and the unswerving implementation of the party's nationality policy of fully equal rights for all citizens and of all working people's participation in running all fields. We can state that our people's councils are an expression of our broad democratism which is incomparably better than any bourgeois democracy. We can assert that, in this field, too, socialism has created and is creating a new unique democracy in which the people themselves decide and run the entire country. Our conference itself proves the broad and democratic nature of our system and the fact that representatives directly elected by citizens in all localities are discussing and deciding the fatherland's destiny, the progress toward communism and the strengthening of the country's independence and sovereignty. [cheers, chants]

As is well known, we have also developed new bodies of workers democracy -- councils of working people in socioeconomic units, county councils, national congresses and councils of working people -- which, in close unity and cooperation with bodies of the state of revolutionary workers democracy, represent the uniform system of our democracy, in which all the people directly participate in drafting the domestic and foreign policy and implementing the party program to build the comprehensively developed socialist society and ensure the progress toward communism.

We will continue to firmly act in the future, too, to develop our democratic framework and ensure the necessary conditions for the participation of the broad masses in running all sectors. We proceed from the fact that the participation of the broad masses and all the people in running the society and the development of the revolutionary workers democracy are a decisive element of ensuring our progress and raising the fatherland onto higher peaks of progress and civilization. [applause]

Esteemed comrades, the highly responsible tasks incumbent upon people's councils in developing all localities require the continuous development of their organizational and political activity and the increase in their role in the entire socioeconomic life. First of all, it is necessary to powerfully strengthen ties between people's councils and the electors and the broad masses. One should always bear in mind that the people's councils were elected on the basis of concrete programs and firm commitments and that they must do everything possible to prove the trust put in them by the working people and to pool the efforts of all citizens in all localities to ensure the smooth development of all activities. The entire activity of people's councils should be based on the laws that establish the proper framework for resolving each problem. The observance of law provisions by all people's councils and all citizens is a compulsory prerequisite and requirement for the smooth development of the activity of people's councils and of our revolutionary workers democracy.

The people's councils must check the proper functioning and observance of law provisions by all units within their jurisdiction. State, industrial, agricultural and cooperative units and all socioeconomic units in a certain locality are accountable to the respective people's councils for unflinchingly observing the country's laws in all fields. As I have already said, the people's councils have very important tasks in seeing to it that agricultural work is being carried out on time and at an appropriate qualitative level, in accordance with law provisions concerning the ensurance of seeds, seedlings, and animal breeds envisaged by law. The people's councils must check the harvesting of crops on schedule, the storage of crops without losses and the attainment of the stocks of agricultural and food products for self-supply and the state's overall requirements.

As I have already said, very important tasks devolve upon people's councils in organizing small-scale industry and services and commendably meeting the working people's needs. People's councils must always see to it that all activity is carried out according to principles of the new economic mechanism and the efficiency and profitability of each project. Particular attention should also be paid to developing and defending socialist property, cooperative property, and all the people's property as well as the private and personal property of citizens against any violation.

People's councils must resolutely act against any violation of norms of social coexistence. They must firmly work to ensure and maintain public order and tranquillity. The state bodies within the perimeter of each locality have the task of carrying out these highly responsible duties.

Proceeding from their responsibilities in all fields of activity, the people's councils must resolutely act to increase their exactingness and improve their working style and methods. The chairmen of people's councils and the mayors of communes and towns must commendably fulfill their highly responsible tasks, proceeding from the fact that the work entrusted to them by our party and state and the trust put into them by the broad masses in electing them to the people's councils and their management must make them spare no effort to unflinchingly serve the interests of the working people and all the people, the cause of socialism, the overall interests of the state and the integrity and sovereignty of the fatherland. [applause]

Esteemed comrades, this conference is also attended by secretaries in charge of propaganda and cultural matters of all the localities in our fatherland. We plan, in the coming period, to have them also become deputy chairmen of the respective people's councils, in order to jointly work with all people's councils and other state institutions within the territory of each locality for the smooth organization and development of political, educational, cultural, and artistic activity. [applause]

In order to strengthen the role of joint agroindustrial councils and ensure the smooth development of cooperation between the communes belonging to the councils, we intend to create a coordinating council of people's councils within the respective joint agroindustrial councils. This aims at uniting all the forces of the agroindustrial councils to ensure the proper development of overall activities. [applause]

We have good results in political-educational activity. We have a wonderful tradition of cultural clubs and mass cultural-artistic activity. Within the framework of the national festival Song to Romania, there is an upsurge of political, educational, and artistic activity in all localities. This festival ensures the participation of hundreds of thousands of working people and citizens in cultural-artistic formations. However, we should pay greater attention to the smooth development of the national festival Song to Romania. We should ensure the better content of the cultural-artistic activity and should lay greater emphasis on educating the masses in the spirit of glorious struggle traditions of our people, of the revolutionary movement and Communist Party.

Let us firmly combat retrograde concepts and all forms of nationalist, chauvinist, and anti-Semitic manifestations; let us give priority to raising the revolutionary consciousness and developing the patriotic sentiment of love for the fatherland and people, the sentiment of friendship and brotherhood in the common struggle and work for socialism and communism. [applause, cheers]

Let us continuously develop the sentiment of solidarity and friendship with all peoples. In political, educational, cultural, and artistic activity all the forces of the respective communes and towns should be united, to ensure that each cultural club becomes a powerful center of political education and of molding the new man, conscious builder of socialism and communism. [applause, cheers]

We have powerful forces in all communes, towns, and socioeconomic units. Let us unite all these forces and ensure that all cadres and working people participate in shaping the new revolutionary culture and art; let us ensure that in this field they score the same kind of results as those attained in developing the national economy. Let us also demonstrate in the field of culture and art that only the people are the true creators of everything that is best. [cheers, chants]

We must unswervingly orient all political-educational activity to the revolutionary outlook on world and life, dialectical and historical materialism and the principles of scientific socialism. Let us ensure that cultural-educational activity becomes an important element of the entire activity of implementing the party decisions and an important factor for participation of the masses in running all socioeconomic sectors. Party organizations, communal, town, and municipal party organizations, must always lead and organize the activity of people's councils in fulfilling the highly responsible tasks devolving upon them. They must act to ensure the role of party organizations and bodies and each Communist in implementing party decisions and the country's laws.

The assertion of the party's leading role in all fields presupposes that each party body and organization and each Communist must fulfill all tasks with maximum exactingness and combativeness. We must always bear in mind that the assertion of the party's leading role is not an abstract notion or a slogan; this leading role must take concrete shape in the work of each activist and party member. In all circumstances, the Communists must always work, along with the broad people's masses and all citizens, and must be in the front ranks of the struggle for commendably carrying out all activities.

Communists do not and may not have special rights and privileges. They have the same rights and duties. However -- in their capacity as revolutionaries and members of a party which they consciously joined in order to participate, in an organized manner, in the revolutionary change of the country and the world -- they also have additional tasks. [applause]

Let us ensure that the activity of Communists in people's councils and of party bodies and organizations leads to rapidly eliminating existing shortcomings in the activity of people's councils and increasing their role in all fields. Measures should be taken to improve the activity of the committee for people's councils affairs in order to efficiently and responsibly resolve the complex problems connected with the smooth development of activities in all localities of our fatherland. All other ministries and central state bodies, within the framework of their duties and prerogatives, should efficiently resolve existing problems and grant assistance to the people's councils in all their activity. We must ensure that the people's councils receive efficient assistance in their efforts to resolve problems and carry out their tasks. Let us move the center of the activity of the Committee for People's Councils Affairs and other central bodies down to the level of communes, towns, and socioeconomic units -- namely, where the success of all activities is really decided. [applause]

We have very good cadres. I would like to mention that I was very impressed with the proceedings of this conference and I regret that I could not participate in all of them. Still, from the speeches I heard here today, I realize that we have some wonderful mayors; and I am convinced that with such people, and if we had mayors in all communes like the ones that spoke here today and gave me such pleasure, then we could attain everything we want. [loud and prolonged applause, cheers, chants]

In this respect, I would like to stress the need to pay great attention to appointing the best activists as party secretaries, mayors, and chairmen of councils in all communes, agroindustrial councils, and in all fields. But, of course, I am now referring only to regional-administrative units, communes, towns, and agroindustrial councils.

Comrades, I believe I am not wrong and you will all agree with me that the qualifications of a commune mayor should be at the level of a county party secretary. Only thus can we place the best activists to these positions and help them to raise their political and professional level and get properly acquainted with the problems. Since the problems of development are being decided in communes and towns, our best cadres should be there. [cheers, chants]

To a certain extent we must adopt a larger view in appreciating the quality of cadres in communes and towns and in recruiting and training them at the level of current requirements. Comrades, we are now among ourselves. It is true that we are on television but [animation, applause, cheers], well, when I say among ourselves, I implicitly mean discussing everything with the people. Each citizen is aware of the work of mayors; therefore we want to air the issues in the open. If a teacher is not too good, this is to be deplored but it is no big tragedy -- of course, all teachers must be good. However, if a mayor cannot resolve problems, this is indeed a very bad thing, comrades. First of all we must ensure that the most qualified cadres become mayors and party secretaries in each commune and town. [applause] Therefore, I also urge you, comrades, to learn and improve the level of your political and economic knowledge so as to better fulfill your responsible tasks and work together with the citizens, since only together with the citizens will you be able to fulfill your responsible tasks. I believe that this conference should contribute to improving the overall activity of people's councils and increasing their responsibility and role as basic regional-administrative and socioeconomic units in running the entire activity. We are relying upon you. You are the basic support of our party, Central Committee and state. You are the communes and towns where we must have powerful units and you must be the real political and organizational leaders of these localities, with the trust of the broad masses and together with them. [applause, cheers, chants]

In this respect, I would also like to refer to the need for the press, radio, and television to grant larger space and time to the activity of towns, communes, and people's councils, to reflect that work carried out in towns and communes by the working people, people's councils, and mayors and to consider that a good press activity and a good radio and television broadcast is the one which reflects the work and life of the peasant, worker, and localities of our fatherland. [applause] Likewise, our creative unions should pay greater attention to the villages and towns of our fatherland and to basic units and should draw inspiration from the work of the people, the wonderful builders of socialism, those who for centuries have maintained and developed the national being and are now building communism in Romania. [cheers, chants]

Let us ensure that the countrywide conference of chairmen of people's councils and of secretaries in charge of propaganda and cultural matters should become a decisive element of and give new impetus to the entire activity of people's councils in fulfilling their highly responsible tasks. Let us ensure that all people's councils commendably fulfill their highly responsible tasks and let us increase their role, within the framework of our revolutionary workers democracy, in fulfilling the fatherland's domestic and foreign policy, powerfully developing the forces of production, raising our fatherland onto higher peaks of progress and civilization and strengthening Romania's independence and sovereignty. [applause, cheers, chants]

While concerning ourselves with fulfilling tasks regarding the socialist development of our fatherland, we also pay particular attention to the international situation and forcefully act to contribute to resolving the complex problems of contemporary world in the interest of peace, socioeconomic progress, and independence for all peoples.

Two opposed trends are confronting each other in international life. Contradictions between various states and groups of states continue to accentuate. The arms race is being intensified, something which increases the danger of new wars, including a world nuclear war. The key problem of the current international circumstances is halting the arms race, proceeding to disarmament, primarily nuclear, removing the danger of war and ensuring peace. [applause, chants]

In this respect, we deem it necessary that everything should be done to prevent the deployment this year of U.S. intermediate-range missiles in Europe and to proceed to withdrawing and destroying the existing ones. If the new intermediate-range nuclear missiles are deployed in Europe, a particularly serious situation will be reached on our continent and the danger of nuclear war will increase, something which would mean the destruction of the continent, civilization, and the life of all men and peoples. Therefore, we believe that the European peoples should unite their efforts, beyond any differences of social system, and resolutely act to halt the deployment of new missiles and bring about the withdrawal of existing ones. Let us do everything for a united Europe, without any kind of nuclear missiles and generally speaking without nuclear weapons. [applause]

We resolutely support various proposals for nuclear-free zones. We work to attain such a nuclear-free zone in the Balkans. We welcome the proposals to create a nuclear-free zone which should separate the two military blocs; this zone should include as much territory as possible. Everything possible should be done to speedily conclude the Madrid meeting by adopting a decision on convening a conference on disarmament and trust in Europe and ensuring the continuity of the Helsinki meeting. We, European peoples, must do everything to ensure peace, freedom, and independence for today's and tomorrow's generations and for our children. Let us do everything to guarantee the people's supreme right to existence, life, freedom, and peace. [cheers]

One should start direct talks between Warsaw Pact and NATO member countries, in view of the fact that these countries own more than 80 percent of armaments and almost all the nuclear weapons. There can be no justification or consideration for continuing the policy of armaments and increasing military expenditures. One should strive for a balance of power not by accumulating new stockpiles of mass destruction weapons but rather by reducing armaments to an ever lower level. We highly assess the peace movements in Europe and other continents. In these circumstances, we believe that the masses and peoples should intensify their struggle and various forces advocating peace should strengthen their cooperation and solidarity in order to attain the basic target of halting the arms race, removing the danger of war, and ensuring peace.

The Romanian people will continue to forcefully participate in and strengthen cooperation with peace movements and the peoples everywhere, with the firm conviction that it is within the power of peoples, through united action, to put an end to the arms race, to bring about disarmament and to ensure each nation's peace and independent development. [cheers, chants]

We attach particular importance to putting an end to the current military conflicts and proceeding to their peaceful resolution through negotiations. No matter how long such negotiations may be, they are incomparably better than war and are the only way to find a solution, in accordance with interests of each people and of peace in general. In this spirit, we believe that the Iranian and Iraqi peoples should cease hostilities and proceed to resolve problems between the two states through negotiations. It is in the interest of both peoples and of the independence, sovereignty and socioeconomic development of the respective countries that they end this war as soon as possible. As their friends, we hope that hostilities will cease as soon as possible, that they will resolve their problems through negotiations and that relations of good-neighborliness and friendship will be speedily resumed between the two peoples and countries.

It is in this spirit that we believe all contentious issues should be resolved. We particularly advocate a global and political solution to the Middle East situation. First of all, Israeli troops should be withdrawn from Lebanon and the independence, territorial integrity, and sovereignty of Lebanon should be observed. At the same time, we deem it necessary to proceed to negotiations within the framework of an international conference in order to resolve all Middle East problems, primarily the Palestinian problem, on the basis of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and the creation of an independent Palestinian state.

It is necessary to ensure in the Middle East the independent existence of a Palestinian state as well as the existence of the Israeli state. Relations of mutual respect for independence, integrity and sovereignty should be established between these two states as well as between all Middle East countries. The attainment of a lasting peace in the Middle East is a requirement of all people in that area and of peace throughout the world. [applause]

Esteemed comrades, as a result of the aggravation of the world crisis and as an outcome of the financial policy promoted at the world level, particularly the high interest rates, the situation of developing countries has worsened considerably. The negotiations held thus far between developed and developing countries have ended without results. We believe that resolute actions should be taken to reach realistic solutions to the problems of underdevelopment and the establishment of a new international economic order. The current situation cannot continue for too long. Without real solutions to the question of underdevelopment and without real assistance to the poor countries, one cannot overcome the economic crisis or resume productive activities.

The financial measures recently adopted or the ones envisaged for the future do not ensure a radical solution of the situation of developing countries. Therefore, Romania believes that more daring solutions should be aimed for, more revolutionary ones, so to speak, such as canceling the interests of loans to the poorest countries, reducing interest rates for another group of countries, reducing and establishing a maximum limit on interest rates and granting new credits for the resumption of economic activities and the development of poor countries.

At the same time, resolute measures should be taken to fix the prices of raw materials, ensure access to new technologies, and establish more equitable international relations -- in the spirit of equality among all states. In view of all these considerations, we believe it necessary for the developing countries to act in greater unity and solidarity and draft a common strategy both regarding future cooperation for socio-economic development and the negotiations with the developed countries. Everything should be done to start negotiations as soon as possible and reach appropriate agreements on the questions of underdevelopment and the principles of new relations and the new world economic and political order. Romania, as a developing socialist country, will forcefully act, along with all developing countries, toward this goal.

In view of the complex problems of international life, one should ensure appropriate conditions for the equal participation of all states, regardless of size or social system, in resolving all problems. It is necessary to powerfully increase the role of the United Nations and other international bodies in democratically resolving the complex problems facing today's mankind. We attach particular importance to developing, small, and average countries and the Nonaligned Movement. In this respect, I would like to express our hope that the New Delhi meeting of nonaligned countries due to be held next March will lead to overcoming certain differences and divergencies and strengthening the unity and cooperation of nonaligned countries in key problems of mutual interest -- problems that are much more important than any differences.

Everything should be done to ensure that the Nonaligned Movement plays a more active part in the problems of disarmament, ensuring peace, promoting the new economic order, resolving contentious problems through negotiations, and ensuring the independence and socioeconomic progress of peoples. In accordance with the national conference decisions, Romania will do its best to develop cooperation with all socialist countries, paying particular attention to relations with its neighbors. We will work to develop cooperation within CEMA. We are preparing for the summit meeting of CEMA socialist countries, which aims at jointly finding ways and means to overcome certain difficulties, in order to ensure the socioeconomic development of each socialist country and the overall development of CEMA member countries and to strengthen cooperation and collaboration in all fields of activity.

We believe that everything possible should be done to overcome certain differences and misunderstandings between certain socialist countries, in order to strengthen their unity and cooperation, as decisive factors for the socioeconomic development of each socialist country, hence for increasing the prestige of socialism in the world and the role of socialist countries in the struggle for disarmament, peace, and the new world economic order. [applause, cheers]

We will continue to strengthen relations with developing countries and all states struggling for independent socioeconomic development. At the same time we will act to continuously expand relations with developed capitalist countries, as part of our active participation in the international division of labor. We believe that life powerfully demonstrates that everything possible should be done in interstate relations to implement the principles of full equality of rights, respect for national independence and sovereignty, noninterference in domestic affairs, mutual advantage and nonuse of force and the threat of force. We want to actively participate in the international division of labor and to expand economic exchanges and production sharing with all states.

We proceed from the fact to overcome economic difficulties one should not restrict but rather expand equitable and mutually advantageous cooperation and trade exchanges. We will unswervingly act to strengthen cooperation with all communist and workers parties, with socialist, social democratic and other democratic parties and forces, proceeding from the need to strengthen active cooperation between all political forces and mass and public organizations in order to intensify the struggle of peoples for peace, disarmament, a new economic order and a better and more just world. [applause, cheers, chants]

We are firmly convinced that the future belongs to a world without wars, in which each nation can develop in freedom, can build the social system it desires and can equally cooperate with all nations. Our party and state and the Romanian people will continue to do their best for Romania's socialist development and for a policy of peace, independence and international cooperation with all nations. [applause, cheers, chants]

Esteemed comrades, at the conclusion of the countrywide conference of chairmen of people's councils and secretaries in charge of propaganda and cultural matters, I express the full conviction that the proceedings and decisions of the conference will lead to improving the entire activity of people's councils and increasing their role in unswervingly implementing the party decisions and country's laws. We must resolutely work to commendably fulfill the 1983 plan. We must ensure all necessary conditions to fulfill plan provisions for the rest of the 5-year plan so that, at the next elections, all people's councils can report that they commendably fulfilled their tasks. We must particularly strive to attain the export production, to ensure a positive trade balance and to secure the necessary means both for imports and for repaying our foreign debts as soon as possible.

We are at the beginning of the spring activities. All measures should be taken to maintain the fall crops and to commendably carry out all spring operations on schedule. We must do our best to obtain a good crop this year so as to fulfill the self-supply program and to increase the contribution of agriculture to the country's overall development. We have everything necessary -- in industry and agriculture as well as in all fields -- to commendably fulfill plan provisions for this year. We must be prompt and exacting in ensuring that each unit and all working people unflinchingly carry out their highly responsible tasks.

We must bear in mind that a leader of a commune or town must act so as to ensure that the respective locality becomes a powerful socioeconomic unit, contributes to the country's overall development and ensures good and dignified working and living conditions for all citizens. [applause, cheers]

Let us do everything for our fatherland's ever greater socioeconomic development and for ensuring necessary conditions to continuously raise the material and intellectual well-being of the people and the necessary means for the continuous progress of Socialist Romania onto higher peaks. Let us resolutely work to implement the program for our fatherland's firm progress toward the high peaks of communist civilization. [applause, cheers, chants]

As I have already said, we still have to cover a difficult distance, but we are firmly convinced that we have the necessary force and capacity to overcome any difficulties, to provide an ever better and more dignified life for our people, to ensure the triumph of socialism and communism in Romania and to continuously strengthen the country's independence and sovereignty. [applause, cheers]

Let us do everything to answer the trust put in us by the people and to always serve the cause of socialism, the fatherland's independence, the people's well-being and international peace and cooperation. [applause, cheers, chants]

I am fully convinced that all people's councils and all participants in this nation-wide conference, on their return home, will firmly act to fulfill their highly responsible tasks and will prove through their daily work that the know how to answer the trust put into them by the people and party and that they will always serve the people, party, and the cause of socialism and communism. [cheers, chants]

With this conviction, I wish you, participants in the conference, the people's councils, all working people, regardless of nationality, and all the people ever greater successes in fulfilling this year's plan in all its aspects and much health and happiness. [prolonged applause, cheers, chants]

BRIEFS

MEDICAL COOPERATION WITH CUBA -- Havana (AGERPRES) -- 20/2/1983 -- The plan of collaboration in medicare matters between the Ministries of Health Protection of Romania and Cuba between 1982-1985 was signed in Havana. The plan was signed by Neculaiu Moraru, Romania's ambassador in Havana and by D. Sergio de Valle Jimenez, minister of public health of Cuba. [Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1700 GMT 20 Feb 83 AU]

TANJUG ASSESSES ANDROPOV'S FIRST '100 DAYS'

LD201020 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1525 GMT 19 Feb 83

["Andropov's 100 Days" -- TANJUG headline]

[Text] Moscow, 19 Feb (TANJUG) -- Yuriy Andropov's past "100 days," since he became head of the CPSU Central Committee, have shown that settling the domestic economic situation and achieving an agreement with the United States regarding the deployment of Pershing II missiles in West Europe are the chief priorities of the head of the Soviet party in domestic and foreign policy. The first aim is considered to be a prerequisite for the successful implementation of broader reform moves, and the second, an opportunity for peace in the world and peaceful development of the USSR.

"Andropov's era," as, after Leonid Brezhnev's death the period has been described, which began with the election of the new Central Committee general secretary, is also marked by other characteristic moves of the Soviet leadership. In this short time, the new first man of the Soviet party top leadership, on the basis of the CPSU general line proclaimed at the 26th congress 2 years ago, launched a series of initiatives. In the domestic sphere, without a formal reorganization of the administrative machinery, new officials have been appointed to leading posts of some key ministries and important state institutions. An all-encompassing action to strengthen discipline is also in progress. What is implied in this is not only the need to come to work on time and not to leave one's place of work in order to carry out personal business, but a change in the attitude toward a strengthening of the responsibility toward work obligations.

Due to a certain exaggeration in the campaign of checking, which has also affected the innocent, the head of the party personally explained that the main problem facing the economy is not a worker being "5 minutes late," but its overall efficiency, high cost of production and nonrational use of raw materials and energy.

Action against corruption, waste and plunder of state property also represents a significant venture. It was not always for the same reasons, but it was chiefly with the same aim that old ministers left, and new ministers of internal affairs, transport, rural construction, trade and some other government departments were appointed. The first man of the Central Committee department for propaganda has also been changed. Parallel with these somewhat spectacular undertakings, activities are in progress which should resolve the causes of the stagnation in agriculture and in other economic branches, motivate literary and other artistic creators, and make propaganda more efficient and closer to the needs of the party and the working masses.

In the foreign political sphere, the main aim of the Soviet Union, headed by its new leader, is certainly success at the Geneva negotiations on the reduction in the European nuclear potential. Moscow's offer still faces the rigid wall of Washington's rejections, but hope is not lost here that "reason will prevail" and that under pressure from the domestic and world public the United States and West Europe will desist from the envisaged deployment of new medium-range missiles by the end of the year. The USSR warns that should this not be the case, the acceleration of the arms race would reach unforeseeable dimensions and consequences.

Moscow is nurturing with particular attention the opportunity for normalization of relations with Peking; on this, Soviet-Chinese "talks on negotiations" will be resumed here next month, following last year's "Beijing phase." The new Soviet leader attaches great significance to this process, but it is calculated to be a long-term opportunity.

Problems such as the presence of Soviet troops in Afghanistan and the absence of Soviet participation in the current search for a solution to the Middle East crisis are also at the center of attention of the new Soviet leader.

"The first 100 days," which expire today, reveal that Yuriy Andropov has made a personal imprint on Soviet policy, both in domestic and in international relations. The accent from his numerous speeches, which are as short as they are precise, indicates that the party top leadership has been guided in its fresh grasp and assessment of the country's priorities by the actual state of affairs and by long-term interests.

With reference to discipline, it is stressed that first it is production which should be ensured in order that there is something to buy. The next step in this sphere will be new economic measures aimed at coordinating the system of planning, production and distribution, in view of the fact that earlier reform directives on this matter have failed to yield the desired results. Regarding insistence on the West renouncing Pershing II missiles, the main motive is the future of both the USSR and the world. With the West's warheads directed at the main centers of the USSR, Moscow will have to begin a new phase of rearming in order that -- as stressed -- "it might re-establish a fresh balance."

This will mean many fresh sacrifices for the country and many fresh dangers for the world.

This is precisely what the new Soviet leader speaks of when he calls on the United States to be realistic and sober. In his "first 100 days" he did not receive the requested consent, but this does not mean, as Moscow continues to believe, that this consent is not possible.

SUNDIC ON USSR-FRENCH DIFFERENCES ON MISSILES

LD202346 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 20 Feb 83

[Text] Radio Newsreel's foreign political commentary deals with the Moscow visit by Claude Cheysson, French minister of external relations. It has been shown in the talks that the Soviet Union does not accept the zero option of Euromissiles and that Claude Cheysson has again refused to have the French missiles included in the nuclear missile potential of the Atlantic alliance. Here is Milika Sundic:

[Sundic] Claude Cheysson, French minister of external relations, has not succeeded in convincing Andrey Gromyko that the Soviet Union should accept President Reagan's plan on Euromissiles. One could have also assumed that Cheysson would try to reconcile Soviet and American attitudes regardless of the fact that there have been no indications whatsoever from the Soviet side about the Soviet Government accepting President Reagan's so-called zero option, which France also advocates. However, this cannot be considered a failure because Cheysson and Gromyko talked not only about Euromissiles but about other issues: foreign, political and bilateral ones.

It is known that France and the Soviet Union, in their assessments of many international problems, have similar or identical attitudes, above all toward the crisis in the Near and Middle East. The two countries are also very interested in the development and promotion of their bilateral relations. France, let us recall, participates in financing the Siberian gas pipeline despite President Reagan's appeals not to do so. On one occasion President Mitterrand objected very severely to President Reagan for pressure exerted on France and other West European countries to participate in the economic boycott of the Soviet Union.

It is true that relations between the Soviet Union and France lack the cordiality that existed at the time of General de Gaulle.

One could even say that the relations between the two countries were more cordial before Mitterrand's victory in the presidential elections. Yet it is strange that France and the Soviet Union have entirely different approaches to the problem of missile disarmament. France, as is known, does not participate in the military structure of the Atlantic alliance, but it does, despite this, rely too much on the United States' nuclear missile strength. Before his visit to Moscow, for instance, Claude Cheysson said, in explaining the reasons for France's advocating Reagan's zero option, that Soviet SS-20 missiles could reach all the targets in West Europe and that West Europe would be left devoid of the appropriate reply were there no American Pershing and cruise missiles. On that occasion, Cheysson did not mention French and British medium-range missiles because France does not accept anybody whatsoever counting on its missiles. Cheysson also repeated this in Moscow, saying that it is President Mitterrand who makes decisions on the issue of French missiles and not the Atlantic alliance. This is, however, not a convincing answer to Soviet objections, and this is the basic reason for Soviet-French differences on the problems of Euromissiles. However, despite this and despite the differences that exist on some other problems such as Poland and Afghanistan, the French-Soviet dialogue in Moscow has been very useful for both sides because it has contributed to a better grasp of both the differences and similarities that exist in the relations between the two countries.

SUNDIC COMMENTS ON U.S. EUROMISSILES POLICY

LD191651 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 19 Feb 83

[Milika Sundic commentary]

[Text] In our foreign political commentary we view the American attitude to Euromissiles. Are there disagreements in the American Administration regarding negotiations with the Soviet Union, and where does West Europe come in all this? Here is Milika Sundic:

It seems that the real position of the United States with regard to the problem of Euromissiles is no longer clear to anyone. A few days ago an official representative of the State Department said to journalists that the American Administration is thinking about giving up the zero option if the necessary prerequisites for this are created. President Reagan has, however, again warned Moscow that the United States will install Pershing and cruise missiles in West Europe if the Soviet Union does not withdraw the SS-20 missiles beyond the Urals.

The American President assessed as unacceptable the compromise formula on Euromissiles presented by Yuriy Andropov -- that is, that the Soviet Union should reduce the number of its medium-range missiles to the number which France and Great Britain have together. It is difficult to explain -- though the world is now used to it -- the reason for such contradictions in American policy and how it will all reflect on the talks the two superpowers are holding in Geneva.

There are indications that there are disagreements in the American Administration, but this can only be conjectured. Vice President Bush has (?allegedly) returned from his tour of West Europe with the conviction that the American allies are more inclined toward a compromise with the Soviet Union than toward Reagan's plan for the installation of Pershing and cruise missiles on their territory. In the course of his European tour, Bush defended the zero option on Euromissiles, but, judging by everything, he did not succeed in defending it successfully. The possibility that he himself has arrived at the conclusion that the conditions raised by the United States are not realistic is not excluded. On the other hand, it is realistic to assume that George Bush, during his stay in Japan and China, [as heard] heard many objections at the expense of a possible transfer of the Soviet SS-20 missiles beyond the Urals.

But let us go back again to Reagan's press conference in the White House. In defending the zero option, the American President primarily addressed the West European allies, in particular Helmut Kohl, reminding him once again of the promise given during the visit to Washington that the FRG -- should he win the next election -- would accept without delay the installation of Pershing and cruise missiles on West German territory. The Americans are convinced that Kohl will win the elections, though some believe that Reagan's rooting for Kohl could be more damaging than useful to him. However, Reagan badly needs the support of the European allies in deals with Moscow and this, it seems, was the main reason for his insisting again on the zero option as the best solution for the Euromissiles problem.

In calling on Kohl, Reagan also called on Hans-Jochen Vogel, the SPD candidate for the position of West German chancellor. Vogel has energetically opposed Reagan's plan, along with the very bold assessment that he and not his opponent Helmut Kohl represents German interests. With such a reply to Reagan, Hans-Jochen Vogel has perhaps not put too much at risk, because the Social Democrats are also not convinced of victory in the elections, but what remains an open question is: Who will most benefit from declarations for or against the zero option before Reagan and before the West German voter. The impression is that the American President has not given thought to this.

SUNDIC ON REACTIONS TO SWEDISH NUCLEAR PROPOSAL

LD221755 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2100 GMT 21 Feb 83

[Milika Sundic commentary]

[Text] Three Warsaw Pact member countries -- the GDR, Czechoslovakia and Poland -- have accepted the proposal by Swedish Premier Olof Palme concerning the establishment of a nuclear-free zone in central Europe. The idea to establish a nuclear-free zone in central Europe is not new; what is new is that this initiative did not originate from any Warsaw Pact member country, but from neutral Sweden.

In proposing the establishment of a nuclear-free zone in central Europe, Olof Palme obviously did not realize what reactions in the Western camp his idea would come up against, especially in the FRG where an electoral campaign is in progress that is virtually conducted against the background of missiles, that is, against the background of yes or no to nuclear weapons.

The first of the above-mentioned Warsaw Pact members to accept Olof Palme's initiative was the GDR, and the first negative reply came from the FRG. Answering Erich Honecker's letter, FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl rejected any possibility of discussing this topic with the GDR. However, since the elections in the Federal Republic are drawing near, not one of the parties taking part in the electoral race can rid itself of the nuclear nightmare regardless of the policy each one of them is advocating. For instance, the letter that Social Democratic candidate for chancellor Vogel has addressed to President Reagan has provoked a real frenzy on the part of Kohl and Genscher. Vogel warned Reagan not to insist on the installation of new missiles in West Europe, and demanded that the U.S. President provide counterproposals to Yuriy Andropov's proposals. His rivals, Helmut Kohl and Hans-Dietrich Genscher, assessed Vogel's letter as impertinence and as weakening Western positions.

This reaction means in fact that it does not suit the CDU and the liberals at all to make precise pronouncements on Euromissiles until the results of the Bundestag elections have become known.

The new coalition led by Kohl and Genscher is afraid of an open dialogue about Pershing and cruise missiles because then neither is compelled to defend Reagan's position before the electors who regardless of their party affiliation are not convinced that the new missiles will be a positive factor. On the contrary, West Germans believe that they have more urgent business to attend to. In fact it is clear to them, as indeed it is to other West Europeans, that the new U.S. missiles, in case of war, will not save them from nuclear catastrophe.

Since the idea of the establishment of a nuclear-free zone in Europe implies the removal of nuclear weapons from the territory of the countries that do not manufacture them, it is understandable why without hesitation the East accepted Olof Palme's proposal and why the proposal has fitted well into the present Soviet-U.S. rivalry. The Swedish premier certainly did not wish this, but this does not diminish the importance of the positive reaction from the GDR, Czechoslovakia and Poland. Besides, the plan to establish a nuclear-free zone in central Europe is linked with the name of a former Polish foreign minister, Adam Rapacki. Although it is not realistic to expect that Olof Palme's plan will fare better than the Rapacki plan, it is a fact that with the deterioration of the relations between the two superpowers and the two military blocs, this is becoming an unavoidable issue that will probably be present in all disarmament talks as long as disarmament can be discussed.

ROMANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES FOR VISIT

Talks Begin With Mojsov

LD211203 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0945 GMT 21 Feb 83

[Excerpts] Vrsac, 21 Feb (TANJUG) -- Romanian Foreign Minister Stefan Andrei, arrived in Vrsac this morning with his aides for a short visit to Yugoslavia. The visitor from friendly neighboring Romania was met and greeted outside the Hotel Breg in Vrsac by Federal Secretary for Foreign Affiars Lazar Mojsov, Yugoslav Ambassador in Bucharest Milos Melovski and officials of the Federal Secretariat for Foreign Affairs.

Yugoslav-Romanian talks started immediately after the arrival at the hotel. During the talks the two sides are expected to carry out a broad exchange of views on bilateral cooperation and a number of international issues of interest to the two friendly neighboring countries. Particular attention is expected to be paid to efforts to promote conditions in Europe in keeping with the Helsinki documents and the current CSCE talks in Madrid. Views are also expected to be exchanged on disarmament. At noon today Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs Lazar Mojsov will host Foreign Minister Andrei at a luncheon at the Hotel Breg in Vrsac. Yugoslav-Romanian talks are scheduled to end this afternoon.

Bilateral, International Issues Discussed

LD211654 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1339 GMT 21 Feb 83

[Text] Vrsac, 21 Feb (TANJUG) -- Lazar Mojsov, federal secretary for foreign affairs and Stefan Andrei, Romanian minister for foreign affairs and their aides discussed a broad range of views this morning in a very cordial atmospehre marked by complete open openness and mutual understanding. They discussed bilateral cooperation and relations and international issues of interest to the two friendly neighboring countries.

Both sides took note of the very favorable development since the high-level meeting between SFRY Presidency President Petar Stambolic and President Nicolae Ceausescu. During today's exchange of views, it was established that despite the grave economic situation in the world, economic cooperation had yielded important results in the recent past.

Within the framework of international issues, the European situation was emphasized. In this connection, the discussion dwelled on the Madrid meeting of the Conference on European Security and Cooperation and on disarmament. It was pointed out that the Madrid meeting should be concluded in a constructive manner. Both sides expressed support for the proposals made by the group of nonaligned and neutral countries of Europe as the basic for the final document of the Madrid meeting.

During the talks, great attention was also paid to the forthcoming seventh conference of heads of state or government of nonaligned countries, scheduled for New Delhi in early March. The conviction was expressed that this meeting of statesmen would contribute to the de-escalation [deeskalacija] of the present international tension and to disarmament, and make an important contribution to the settlement of international economic problems. The talks once more confirmed Romania's interest in nonaligned countries' activity.

Great attention was also paid to the development of the situation in the Balkans and the Mediterranean. Both sides stressed the importance of all-Balkan cooperation.

After the talks, Lazar Mojsov, federal secretary for foreign affairs, gave a luncheon in honor of the visitor from Romania, Stefen Andrei, Romanian minister of foreign affairs.

Mojsov, Andrei Exchange Toasts

LD221000 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1555 GMT 21 Feb 83

[Text] Vrsac, 21 Feb (TANJUG) -- Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs Lazar Mojsov gave a luncheon in the Breg Hotel in Vrsac at noon today in honor of Romanian Foreign Minister Stefan Andrei.

During the luncheon the host and the guests exchanged toasts.

Turning to his guest, Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs Lazar Mojsov said that the long tradition of friendship between the peoples of the two countries and mutually useful cooperation were confirmed during the talks today.

"I am convinced, Mojsov said, that the practice of constant dialogue on all the most important international questions and in bilateral cooperation greatly contributes to the development of our relations. This is in the vital interests of our peoples and countries. Our talks today confirm that the two countries are decisively oriented toward the development of mutual and good-neighborly relations and comprehensive cooperation which are in the wide interests of peace, security, and progress in the world. The talks also confirmed that both Yugoslavia and Romania are resolved in this difficult international situation to work with all means at their disposal for a solution to the accumulated problems which weigh heavily on the world situation.

I believe I share your view that our friendly relations are developing successfully in all spheres. The many significant results which we have attained oblige us to make fresh efforts to raise this cooperation to an even higher level. This applies especially to the area of economic relations, which are particularly important for our two countries because of the serious economic conditions in the world which have placed the developing countries in particular in an especially complex situation. I believe that in the economic sphere we still have a great deal of inadequately explored territory, especially in the field of long-term forms of cooperation -- cooperation, specialization, and joint investments.

"The results attained so far provide a good basis for further progress."

Mojsov went on to say that the international situation is very complex, weighed down as it is by many crises, rivalry between great powers and blocs and the arms race. The problems in the world have accumulated and become aggravated to such an extent that it could truly be said that this is the most critical period since the war. The results attained so far -- detente, cooperation, and dialogue on the European Continent -- have been placed seriously in jeopardy. This is why Yugoslavia and other nonaligned and neutral countries attach exceptional importance to the successful continuation and conclusion of the Madrid meeting, through the adoption of a final document on the basis of the proposals of the group of neutral and nonaligned countries, including the decision about convening a disarmament conference in Europe.

Nor is the situation in the Mediterranean any better. On the contrary, the situation in the Middle East is becoming increasingly acute and threatens a fresh outbreak of war. The Cyprus question has also been deadlocked for many years now.

In conclusion Lazar Majsov stressed:

"The world expects a great deal from the forthcoming seventh summit of nonaligned countries in New Delhi. That meeting will constitute not only an appeal by the overwhelming majority of mankind for peace, justice, security, and equal international cooperation but an appeal for action for a rapid and substantial solution to the accumulated problems which are barring the way to universal progress.

We are deeply concerned at the constant widening of the gulf between the developed and the developing countries and at the difficult state of the international economy. This division of the world, imposed by the lack of understanding of the rich countries, can give rise and does give rise to very serious problems with unforseeable consequences."

Thanking his host for his warm words, Romanian Minister of Foreign Affairs Stefan Andrei said in his toast that cooperation between the two neighboring and friendly countries is in the ascendant. He then added: "The basis for this flowering of relations was laid down by Presidents Ceausescu and Tito and these relations were powerfully affirmed during the top-level meetings held during the past 2 years, which ended with the adoption of very important documents and agreements."

Continuing his toast, the Romanian foreign minister said that it is the task of the two countries to continue on this course, which is a great contribution to the consolidation of peace and cooperation in the Balkans, in Europe and in the world, and which is in keeping with the long-term interests of both the Romanian and the Yugoslav peoples.

"Our talks today, Minister Andrei went on to say, also confirm that extensive possibilities exist for even broader cooperation and for the consolidation of relations in general between our neighboring countries. Without doubt this is a reflection of the progress and development of our two socialist countries."

Minister Andrei emphasized that the talks were held in a friendly and sincere atmosphere and that they demonstrated that the two socialist countries have many joint interests to cooperate actively in so that a climate of sincere cooperation and peace can be established in Europe and throughout the world.

The Romanian foreign minister pointed out the need for renewal of the policy of peace and relaxation of international tension and for the establishment of the policy of respecting the sovereignty and independence of all countries, coupled with respect for the right of every nation to decide its own socioeconomic development without any outside interference.

"As we both stressed today, Minister Andrei said, the international situation is very alarming. This is the consequence of the policy of force and diktat and of the stockpiling of new mass destruction weapons, that is, of an intensified arms race, the deterioration and aggravation of the economic situation in the world and the widening gulf between the rich and poor countries."

The Romanian foreign minister assessed that in these conditions it is essential to cooperate more than ever before so as to make a contribution to put an end to the present tension in the world and to resolve international problems through negotiations.

Minister Andrei then stressed the importance of a political solution to the situation in the Middle East, coupled with respect for the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and to the establishment of a Palestinian state. He also stressed the need for a peaceful solution to the Iraqi-Iranian conflict.

Returning to the development of the political situation in Europe the Romanian minister emphasized that his government is working for a halt to the arms race and for the withdrawal of existing missiles -- that is, for the establishment of a Europe without any nuclear weapons. In other words, the Romanian foreign minister stressed the need for the Madrid CSCE meeting to end successfully.

As far as the Balkans are concerned, Romania is interested in this area being proclaimed an area of peace and cooperation without any nuclear weapons.

In conclusion, Romanian Foreign Minister Stefan Andrei stressed his country's interest in the establishment of a new international economic system and in world economic and political stability. He pointed out the activity of nonaligned countries and the importance of the seventh summit in New Delhi which can contribute to the solution of the acute questions of the present-day world, such as the promotion of international relations and a solution to development problems.

The luncheon, which was held in a very cordial and pleasant atmosphere, was attended, in addition to the associates of the two foreign ministers, by Milivoje Milicevic, president of the Municipal Committee of the League of Communists of Vrsac, Dejan Gvozdenov, president of the Vrsac Municipal Assembly, and other figures.

Visit Ends, Andrei Departs

LD211728 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1607 GMT 21 Feb 83

[Text] Vrsac, 21 Feb (TANJUG) -- Romanian Foreign Minister Stefan Andrei left for Romania this afternoon after staying in Vrsac for several hours where he had talks with Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs Lazar Mojsov. Outside the Breg Hotel in Vrsac the guest from Romania was seen off by the federal secretary for foreign affairs, Lazar Mojsov, and (?other Federal Secretariat for Foreign Affairs) officials. Dejan Gvozdenov, president of the Vrsac Municipal Assembly, and Milivoje Milicevic, president of the Municipal Committee of the League of Communists of Vrsac, were also present.

GRLICKOV MEETS WITH 'ARAFAT IN ALGIERS

AU181215 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1826 GMT 16 Feb 83

[Text] Algiers, Feb 16 (TANJUG) -- The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) devotes great importance to the forthcoming seventh summit of nonaligned countries in New Delhi and expects it to devote special attention to the solution of the Palestinian question.

PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat stated the above here today, Wednesday, during a meeting with Socialist Alliance of Yugoslavia Presidency member Dr Aleksandar Grlickov.

Relations between Yugoslavia and the PLO were assessed as very good. Yasir 'Arafat thanked Yugoslavia for the support offered to the Palestinian people in its struggle for the realization of its legitimate rights.

Dr Grlickov, who is also League of Communists of Yugoslavia Central Committee member, is attending the Palestinian National Council session here in Algiers.

MIJATOVIC MEETS AL-QADHDHAFI IN LIBYA 18 FEB

LD191549 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1250 GMT 19 Feb 83

[Text] Tripoli, Feb 19 (TANJUG) -- Presidency of Yugoslavia member Cvijetin Mijatovic, on a visit to Libya, yesterday evening, Friday, met with Libyan revolutionary leader, Col al-Qadhdhafi.

The exchange of views reflected a great closeness of the two sides' views on major questions discussed.

Mijatovic and Al-Qadhdhafi, as reported here yesterday evening, discussed preparations for the forthcoming seventh non-aligned summit, bilateral, and major international questions.

DRAGAN TO DISCUSS TRADE, OTHER ISSUES IN IRAQ

LD220710 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0900 GMT 21 Feb 83

[Text] Baghdad, February 21 (TANJUG) -- A Yugoslav delegation led by Zvone Dragan, Yugoslavia's deputy premier, arrived here Sunday evening for a four-day visit and the 8th regular session of the mixed Yugoslav-Iraqi Committee on Economic and Scientific-Technological Cooperation.

This session is to be held after another successful year of economic cooperation between the two countries, although both of them are facing economic difficulties.

Last year, the value of commodity exchange between the two countries ammounted to 1,070 million dollars, with a considerably more favorable Yugoslav export of a total of 722 million dollars. Although a final balance has not yet been made, it is considered that many Yugoslav enterprises working in Iraq did works valued at about 1,000 million dollars.

The new protocol due at the end of the 8th regular session of the mixed committee is expected to chart directions for a further promotion of economic cooperation between Yugsolavia and Iraq.

While in Baghdad, the Yugoslav deputy premier is scheduled to have a string of meetings with several ministers and other top-ranking officials of Iraq.

In addition to economic cooperation, also to be discussed are preparations for the forthcoming 7th summit of the Nonaligned Movement to which both countries attach an exceptional importance.

Dragan Meets 'Aziz in Iraq

LD230451 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1100 GMT 22 Feb 83

[Text] Baghdad, Feb 22 (TANJUG) -- The coming seventh summit of the Movement of Nonalignment is of exceptional significance not only for the nonaligned and developing countries but also for the whole international community because it will make serious efforts to improve the seriously deteriorated political and economic relations in the world. This was noted during talks between Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Tariq 'Aziz and Yugoslav Vice-Premier Zvone Dragan, who is on a visit to Baghdad.

Their exchange of views encompassed most important questions to be discussed at the summit. Dragan and 'Aziz also conferred on the situation in the Middle East, especially in Lebanon and on the Gulf war. A great degree of closeness, and for the most part an identity of the two countries' views on the topics of the seventh summit's age agenda were noted.

During the talks both sides underscored their countries' readiness to make every effort to bring the seventh summit conference to a successful end. They stressed that Yugoslavia and Iraq are firmly attached to the authentic principles, aims and policy of the movement of nonaligned countries.

The Yugoslav vice-premier arrived in Baghdad on Sunday evening for talks on bilateral economic relations and cooperation, and on questions which will figure on the agenda of the seventh summit conference of the Nonaligned Movement.

IRANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES FOR VISIT

LD221228 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1042 GMT 22 Feb 83

[Text] Belgrade, 22 Feb (TANJUG) -- Foreign Minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, arrived today for a 2-day official and friendly visit to Yugoslavia at the invitation of Lazar Mojsov, federal secretary of foreign affairs.

At the Belgrade Airport at Surcin the Iranian guest was welcomed and greeted by Lazar Mojsov, federal secretary of foreign affairs, and other officials of the Federal Secretariat for Foreign Affairs. Dmitar Janevski, assistant federal secretary; Dusan Litvinovic, head of the Political Department for the Near and Middle East, and others were there to greet him. Mahmud Ahmadzadeh-Heravi, Iranian ambassador to Yugoslavia, was also in the welcoming party.

Today Lazar Mojsov and the Iranian foreign minister will discuss bilateral cooperation and current questions pertaining to international life . (?The talks) are expected to be devoted to preparations for the seventh conference of nonaligend heads of state or government which will be held in New Delhi at the beginning of March.

Meets With Mojsov

LD221942 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1823 GMT 22 Feb 83

[Text] Belgrade, 22 Feb (TANJUG) -- Yugoslav-Iranian talks have been held at the Federal Secretariat for Foreign Affairs this evening, between Lazar Mojsov, federal secretary [for foreign affairs] and 'Ali Akbar Velayati, Iranian minister of foreign affairs. Their associates also took part.

At the beginning of the meeting the two ministers held a broad exchange of views on the bilateral cooperation between Yugoslavia and Iran, and on this occasion both sides expressed their pleasure at the results achieved to date. Board possibilities for the further promotion of relations, in particular of economic and scientific-technical cooperation, were discussed.

At today's meeting the two heads of diplomacy reviewed bilateral relations and cooperation since their last meeting in Tehran.

The exchange of views also encompassed discussion of current issues of international affairs before the holding of the significant gathering of heads of state and government convened in New Delhi for the beginning of March. Both sides stressed their interest in the present course of preparations for this conference and expressed the hope and desire for a successful conclusion to the seventh summit. In this connection the significance of the further affirmation of the Nonaligned Movement and the strengthening of its role in international affairs were highlighted, which is manifest in the constant increase in the number of members and in their growing interest for a successful conclusion to the seventh conference of heads of state and government.

During the meeting crisis hotbeds in the world were discussed. Both sides expressed the desire for the nonaligned countries to invest efforts in seeking long-term and just solutions, to prevent further expansion of hotbeds of war and to start strengthening security and peace in the world. In this respect views were exchanged on specific issues that will be the subject of talks at the forthcoming gathering of statesmen of the nonaligned countries in New Delhi.

The talks between Mojsov and Velayati also included economic development issues. In this connection, special attention was drawn to issues concerning today's position of developing countries: The need to strengthen and expand the developing countries' mutual cooperation was indicated.

Minister Velayati's associates will, during their stay in Belgrade, have meetings with Yugoslav counterparts that will deal with specific issues in the sphere of bilateral cooperation.

REWRITING OF SHEHU'S REPUTATION IN ALBANIA

LD221150 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1123 GMT 21 Feb 83

[Text] Belgrade, 21 Feb (TANJUG) -- Half a year before it was announced that he "committed suicide" and before he was denounced as "the most dangerous enemy of Socialist Albania," Mehmet Shehu was praised as a "most prominent and talented son of the Albanian people." These words were written by Ramiz Alia, member of the Politburo and of the Secretariat of the AWP Central Committee. According to many evaluations, Alia is the second-ranking personality in terms of his influence in the Albanian top leadership.

In May 1981 there came off the press the first volume of the selected works of Mehmet Shehu. The introduction to these volumes was written by none other than Alia. ZERI I POPULIT, the AWP organ, published this introduction on 30 May 1981, 6 and 1/2 months before Shehu was proclaimed a "traitor." Under the title "Pages of Heroism of Our People in Antifascist Struggle," Alia wrote that Shehu is "one of the most glorious leaders of the AWP, its loyal son and a son of the people in all its great battles."

R. Alia quoted Enver Hoxha as saying that M. Shehu "rendered great and exceptional service to the party and our people."

Alia went on to say that he is always in the front line of the struggle, shoulder to shoulder with the party founder and leader, E. Hoxha, on every front and in every situation, during the glorious national liberation struggle, in the great efforts to establish and strengthen people's power, in the heroic struggle for socialist construction and consolidation of the defenses of the homeland, in clashes with internal and external enemies, in the heroic struggle against imperialism, against Titoite, Khrushchev-Brezhnev, Chinese and other revisionists."

He was also praised in that article as a personality whose "achievement is closely linked with the development of the Albanian revolution," "from whose achievements there rises magnificiently the image of legendary epic," who "defended and fought for the implementation of the party line," and "unmasked the traitors." The author of the introduction stresses that "from all his works," all of Shehu's activity is imbued with proletarian devotion to principles, clarity and high ideological and political standards, maturity and revolutionary boldness, boundless loyalty to the party and to the cause of the revolution, a spirit of (?self-respect), resolve in the implementation of tasks to completion, love for the people's masses and implacability toward the enemy.

The first and the only volume of Shehu's selected works was burned the day after he "committed suicide." Every written and visual trace of the "talented and prominent son" was removed and, of course, Ramiz Alia was in a hurry to change his views and assessment, so he denounced Shehu as his "dear and beloved leader and teacher" had done. But Enver Hoxha, too, was compelled to blot out Shehu from his own books in which he portrayed him as a talented and courageous commander and principled leader. This is also shown by the haste with which, parallel with the pamphlet "The Titoites," there appeared the second edition of "The Khrushchevites," because the first edition says that Shehu, with Enver Hoxha, was under threat of being "poisoned" together in Moscow. The image of this "traitor" is also painted out from the many portraits in which Shehu is depicted alongside Enver Hoxha.

This is how the history of events and personalities is written in Enver Hoxha's Albania.

ASSEMBLY RATIFIES COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH EC

LD210518 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1804 GMT 20 Feb 83

["By Aleksandar Borccicc"]

[Text] Belgrade, February 20 (TANJUG) -- The Assembly of Yugoslavia has ratified the agreement on economic cooperation between Yugoslavia and the EC. The EC's ten member countries having ratified it, too, an exchange of ratification instruments is to follow soon.

The new agreement's coming into force will mark a moment of importance in Yugoslavia-EC economic relations since, in addition to promoting bilateral trade, it also fixes conditions for setting up industrial coproduction, and cooperation in the fields of energy, science and technology. This agreement also covers the fields of transport, agriculture, tourism, finance and social welfare, particularly as to giving rights to Yugoslavs temporarily working in the EC countries.

The EC Executive Commission and business circles expect as the most of the new agreement to stimulate setting up cooperation in industrial production between Yugoslav working organizations and EC firms. [sentence as received]

Such [word indistinct] firms the Netherlands' Phillips and France's Thomson-Brandt and Alathom-Atlantique as well as some others have shown a very high interest in cooperation with Yugoslav enterprises.

In Brussels and other cities, the EC [words indistinct] a particular importance to a business week of Yugoslav and EC businessmen to take place in Belgrade early in March. At this large gathering, businessmen from the EC countries and Yugoslavia are to have concrete talks on realization of some 200 projects in the fields of joint investments, coproduction and other forms of cooperation.

COUNCIL EXPRESSES CONCERN OVER PRICE INCREASES

AU201617 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 17 Feb 83 p 1

[M. Dapcevic report]

[Summary] Belgrade, 16 Feb -- It is estimated that in the first quarter of this year prices will increase 11.5 percent and the cost of living about 15 percent.

The estimate of possible price trends, which was discussed at today's meeting of the Council of the Federal Community for Prices, is based on the price increases approved so far and on those price increases which have been semiofficially indicated. This list includes electricity, coal, rents, milk and dairy products, meat products, gas, crude oil, television subscription and daily papers.

Concerned over this increase in prices at the beginning of the year, despite the fact that prices have, in fact, been frozen, the Council of the Federal Community for Prices has issued the following warning:

"The decisions on price corrections adopted by this community and others, by the Federal Executive Council and other bodies cause serious chain reactions and undermine the adopted policy for this year. For this reason the council proposes that the coordination body of the signatories of the agreement urgently meet to review this issue." The representative of the Croatian Executive Council at today's meeting did not agree with the conclusions linked with this point of the agenda.

The following examples show that concern is justified: Producers of electric ranges asked for a price increase of 100 percent, automobile producers from Sarajevo have asked for a 47 percent increase, producers of newsprint for a 40 percent increase and producers of cellulose for a 50 percent increase. In addition, there are more and more "new products" on the market and products of poorer quality sold at the same prices.

At today's meeting measures and activities were proposed for implementing the price policy in accordance with the agreement.

RIBICIC ADDRESSES MARXIST MEETING IN PORTOROZ

LD111019 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1436 GMT 10 Feb 83

[Text] Portoroz, 10 Feb (TANJUG) -- One of the basic causes of our present difficulties and weakness is the neglect of Marxism and the disregard for Marxist theory and practice. This is also the main factor in our disunity. Yugoslavia's authentic Marxist fund is the most important barrier against all deviations to the left or the right, a barrier against all forces which would like to devalue our Marxist movement, our Marxism.

This is one of the things Mitja Ribicic, LCY Central Committee Presidium, said when speaking on the platform of the "Week of Marxist Discussions" in Portoroz.

Ribicic recalled that we have always had a breakthrough of such antisocialist and antiself-management forces whenever there has been theoretical irresoluteness and relaxation of Marxist analysis. Our Marxism must critically review its own practice and must regard socialism as a universal process within the framework of international processes. Such analysis will help us to rise above particular interests and to find what we have in common more quickly and successfully. Disunity always arises when we are unsuccessful in rising above particularism.

In Mitja Ribicic's view, pragmatism is one of the greatest weaknesses. It is nothing other than opportunism which is running away from scientific analysis he said. That is why our basic task is the struggle against practicism and [word indistinct].

The second precondition for solving the present complex difficulties and for opening up the perspective for further development is unity of democratic forces -- that is strengthening mass organizations which we created during the national liberation struggle. This is the guarantee that the League of Communists will not be bureaucratized, that it will not become preoccupied with itself, that it will not mark time.

The League of Communists' great weakness today is that it is not the driving force and main advocate of Marxist views. That is why Ribicic said, tendencies appear which attempt to devalue our revolution and to put a different interpretation on the values of our past. These forces are in keeping with the reactionary forces appearing in the world and with the world anticommunist movement. They want to compromise socialism and to identify it with the blackest spots of its development, with Stalinism. The theory is being advanced that Stalin alone was not responsible for Stalinism, but that Lenin was also guilty; some maintain that since Lenin learned from Marx, the roots of Stalinism are to be found in Marx. This has simply become a contest to see who can create the largest division, Ribicic said. These forces claim that we are building anti-Stalinist Stalinism, that in 1948 we broke with Stalinism but have not rid ourselves of it, that Stalinism is our constant and anti-Stalinism a mask. They further claim that our original sin lies in the fact that our history begins in October. Of course, these people do not publicly declare themselves to be against socialism. They say that they are for socialist self-management, but without the League of Communists, without Marxism. These are the same theses which we heard 10 years ago during the serious affair in Slovenia, Ribicic said.

There is a real escalation of attempts to depict the League of Communists as a Stalinist party which does not permit freedom of creativity, as if gaining freedom is not a process but rather something which can be given or taken away by a decree. Such people maintain that the League of Communists is an anti-intellectual force. In the history of our party, as in the history of other workers parties, there were sometimes reservations with regard to intellectualism. Such phenomena demand a deeper Marxist analysis of that intellectualism. However, our opponents want to prove that anti-intellectualism is the problem orientation of the League of Communists. [sentence as received]

The League of Communists must also subject to criticism the wooing of the younger generation by these forces, Ribicic stressed. Let us see how our young people understand Marxism, and where the causes lie for the fact that young people do not always see the League of Communists as the most revolutionary social force.

Ribicic sees one of the reasons for this in the League of Communists' practicistic approach to Marxism itself, in its equation with daily practice and with the existing situation.

Not everything that is happening today represents our revolutionary goal, Ribicic said.

For example, the restrictive measures of the Federal Executive Council are not what we are striving for, but we must support them because they are currently necessary and realistic. Our aim is the self-managing movement of the masses and greater initiative on the part of the individuals, and not laws which prescribe what every worker should do and how much he should work. Ribicic stated that the League of Communists must be prepared today to find the beginnings of something new, and should not stand 100 percent behind every measure of the state or municipality. It must detach itself from such practice, even at the cost of diverging from the Communists who sit in armchairs and agree with such practice.

The struggle against the practicistic approach to the question of social development is currently very important. Realizing the League of Communists' leading role in society depends to a large extent on this. After all, practicism and the party leadership's alienation from the masses were the basic causes of the events in Kosovo.

Ideological disorientation, or rather the League of Communists' ideological offensive, will be the theme of the next session of the LCY Central Committee. We will once again look at the League of Communists' work methods, the state of consciousness and the future paths toward realizing its leading role in society.

In the League of Communists, we have assessed the causes of the disturbed economic trends, we have said that we must radically change our behavior and set all forces in motion in order to win the struggle for economic stabilization. In this activity, we must bear in mind that the working class should accept all of our changes as its own, because in the final analysis it pays the main bill. Therefore, this is not an academic question for the League of Communists.

Ribicic particularly pointed to the necessity for [word indistinct] commitment. He considers that the present complex economic situation does not permit old forms of behavior, nor should we be united in resolutions and declarations, but when the time comes to sacrifice something for that policy, everyone does what he wants.

The League of Communists must not allow this. Today we must take small steps and not great declarations, Mitja Ribicic said.

Our economic situation has some of the symptoms of crisis, but we should not overuse this expression because it also implies political, social, cultural and all other crises. For 2 years now, we have been forced to put pressure on the working people's standard of living. Their reaction has confirmed that they are prepared to support the efforts to find a way out of this crisis.

Mitja Ribicic devoted a part of his report to an analysis of international economic trends and preparations for the New Delhi summit. He stressed that Yugoslavia, because of its place and role in the world, must give its own assessment of the world crisis. He recalled that our country participated in drafting the demand for building a new economic order, which in his view was a revolutionary act.

Replying to a question on what he perceives as the League of Communist's responsibility today, Ribicic said that its greatest responsibility lies in ensuring the leading role of the working class and in creating an alliance of the working class with other social categories such as the peasantry, intelligentsia and other progressive strata in our society. It must achieve this in the Socialist Alliance, which is an authentic Yugoslav experience. In a lively dialogue, Ribicic spoke about the skepticism which is appearing toward self-management and the fact that shortages and other problems create the impression that there has never before been more idleness, crime and irresponsibility. The greatest idleness is not seen now, Ribicic said, but in the year when we could easily obtain credits from abroad and could invest in our every wish. In spite of all our differences, we do not have different ideological viewpoints as to the causes and as to the direction in which we are heading.

Ribicic sees confirmation of this assessment in the consensus on the starting foundations for economic stabilization, on the resolution for the next year and in other things. However, problems arise when this has to be realized, when the time comes that someone has to back down from his program.

We have carried out the decentralization of the federal capital to the republics and provinces, but not to the working class. That is why etatist relations have prevailed at this level, Ribicic said, among other things, when speaking on the platform of the "Week of Marxist Discussions."

MAMULA MEETS MACEDONIAN OFFICIALS ON DEFENSE

LD230706 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1240 GMT 22 Feb 83

[Text] Skopje, 22 Feb (TANJUG) -- Admiral Branko Mamula, federal secretary of national Defense, who is paying a working visit to Macedonia and to the Skopje Army District, accompanied by his associates, had talks today in the Presidency of the Socialist Republic of Macedonia.

During the talks, in which Angel Cemerski, president of the Presidency of the Socialist Republic of Macedonia; Krste Karkovski, president of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Macedonia; Bosko Stankovski, president of the Macedonian Assembly; Dragoljub Stavrev, president of the Macedonian Executive Council; Lambe Mijahlovski, commander of the Skopje Army District; Todor Atanasovski, territorial defense commander of the Socialist Republic of Macedonia; and others took part, reference was made to some questions of defense preparations in the Socialist Republic of Macedonia within the unified system of all-people's defense and social self-protection in our country.

The evaluation was made that significant results have been attained in organizing and training all the defense and protection components in Macedonia. The need to further and constantly improve the defense self-protection system in keeping with the ideo-political orientations and overall socio-economic and self-management development of the republic and of our country was pointed out.

Adm Mamula and his associates today visited the work organizations 11 Oktomvri in Prilep and the Tito metal works in Skopje. His hosts briefed Adm Mamula on their production results and on the development plans of their work organizations while the long-term program for economic stabilization is being implemented.

Accompanied by Colonel General Lambe Mijahlovski, commander of the Skopje Army district, the federal secretary visited the Popova Sapka military sports center where he was briefed on the results and opportunities for training men in winter conditions.